102

Y. E. Y. Meeting

Men

Women Meeting for Sufferings

1845 – 1863

EARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
E. FOR NEW ENGLAND Y. M.

YM
102
No.
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N. E Yearly Meeting

Men

Women Meeting for Sufferings

1845 – 1863

YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND

New England Yearly Meeting - Meeting for Sufferings

Minutes, 6mo., 1845 to 6mo., 1863. (Laid in, Minutes from Meeting of 6mo. 15, 1864)

Minutes, 6mo., 1863, to 6mo., 1902.

Minutes, 10mo., 1902, to 4mo., 1945.

List of members, 1849-1887. (Laid in, 6 items)

Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for New England Yearly Meeting. Commencing 23 of 6 mo. 1845.

* Ethan Foster, Thomas B. Gould & Amos C. Wilbur

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at the rise of the yearly Meeting, Newport, the 23d 6mo. 1845. Present 23 members. We have received the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting, to wit.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island from the 16th to the 23d of the 6 mo. inclusive, 1845. The Committee appointed to lay before us a list of the names of Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings produced the following, viz. Herekiah Swain, John Wilbur, Seth Davis, Ab Eddy, Jonathan Nichols, Prince Gardiner, Nathan Page, Henry Gould, Oliver Chace, Geo. C. Kenyon, John Mitchell, Geo. F. Read, Wm. B. Oliver, Charles Perry, John T. Kenyon, William Hill, Harvey Chace, Benjamin Tucker, Minias K. Wilbur, Othniel Foster, Laban Paddock, James Austin, Israel Buffington, Palmer Chace, Geo. M. Eddy, Nathan Buffington, Thos. P. Nichols, Thomas Foster* and Christy Davis, Which being approved by this Meeting, they are accordingly appointed for the year ensuing, and are desired to pay due attention to the best interests of our Religious Society, during the recess of this Meeting, next year.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid, Thomas B. Gould, Clerk.

We have appointed Geo. F. Read, to serve this Meeting, as Clerk, for the ensuing year. We have concluded to meet at Fall River, at the 10th hour of the day following that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held, in the 11th 2d and 5th months. Our business being finished at this time, we have adjourned to meet on chan-

Nucket, at the 3d hour in the afternoon of the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting of Sandwich at that place, in the 7month next.

— — —George F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held on Nantucket, the 2d. of the 7mo. 1845. Present 16. Members

We have received the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting. to wit

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, by adjournments from the 16th to the 23d 6mo, inclusive, 1845.

The Committee, to whom the subject of preparing an Epistolary declaration and testimony, embracing the proceedings of those who have separated themselves from us, and a contrast of the unsound doctrines which have been recently introduced, and extensively promulgated amongst us, with those originally held maintained & supported by our Religious Society, produced one in accordance with the exercise and concern of this meeting, which being read & deliberately considered, was united with and adopted both by our Mens & womens Meetings; The Clerks were directed to sign it on our behalf, and the document is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings, which is authorized to have not less than one thousand copies printed for distribution; and, if in the judgement of that Meeting, it should appear necessary they are left at liberty, to have a larger number printed, Signed by direction & on behalf of the meeting aforesaid

Thomas B. Gould, Clerk

This subject having claimed the attention of this Meeting, we have appointed, John Wilbur, Thomas B. Gould, Nathan Buffington, Geo. F. Read, Oliver Chace, Seth Davis, Ist Eddy, Prince Gardiner, James Austin, Benjamin Tucker & George N. Eddy to superintend the publication of the document; and to call upon other members of this Meeting for Sufferings to render such assistance as may appear necessary in the case. They are also authorized to cause 2000 copies of said document to be printed for distribution, and report the expense thereof at our next Meeting.

We have appointed John Wilbur, Thomas B. Gould and Seth Davis to prepare an essay of communication to the meetings for Sufferings for other Yearly Meetings, as necessity may seem to require and way opens for it; and present it to our next Meeting.

Our business being finished at this time, we have adjourned to meet at Newport on Rhode Island, at the 3d hour in the afternoon of the day of holding the select Quarterly Meeting, at that place, in the 8th month next.

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At a meeting for Sufferings, held at Newport, on Rhode Island, the 6th of the 8mo. 1845.

Present 19 members.

The Committee, appointed at our last meeting, to superintend the publication of the epistolary declaration and testimony, informs the meeting that the document is now in the press; but they are not ready to report the expense. They are continued to have

the case of the same; and as the number of copies which was then directed to be printed seems to be insufficient, they are authorized to cause three thousand additional copies, to be printed, and report the expense thereof, when the service is accomplished.

A pamphlet purporting to come from New England Yearly Meeting, but issued by those who have separated from Friends, entitled a "Narrative of Facts and circumstances, that have tended to produce a secession from the Society of Friends," having been read in this Meeting, produced much exercise thereon. Under a conviction of its injustice, we have appointed Charles Perry, Thomas B. Gould, Ethan Foster, William Hill, George F. Read and Thomas P. Nichols to take it into consideration, together with an "Epistle" also issued by them in the Sixth month last, to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings within our limits, and make such report thereon as way may open for, at a future sitting. And inasmuch as the publications above alluded to, contain many representations at variance with the truth, as well as many important omissions which materially appertain to the merits of the controversy between the authors of these publications and Friends, which have been clearly set forth in a book entitled a "Narrative and Exposition of the late proceedings of New England Yearly Meeting &c., by John Wilbur, and in an address by Rhode Island

Quarterly Meeting, issued in the third month last—
we hope believed it right for this Meeting, on a
careful and weighty consideration of the subject, to
express its full approval of the two last named
publications, as in our judgement containing a
correct relation of the extraordinary things which
have lately transpired within our limits, and
the real facts and circumstances which occur-
red previous to our late Yearly Meeting.
And the impress and evidence of truth which these
publications carry with them, is such, that it
cannot be supposed that those who have
issued the adverse statement, above alluded to,
can have any reasonable expectation of effecting
their object thereby, except it may be, by spreading
them more widely than ours have been spread,
or by placing them in the hands of those whom
they have discouraged and prohibited from re-
ceiving or reading our publications.
The considerations contained in the preface
and conclusion of the said "Narrative and Expo-
sition," being in our view well adapted to the
condition of professing Christians every where,
and peculiarly applicable to the present state
of our Religious Society, we earnestly recommend
them to the serious and attentive perusal of
Friends.
Adjourned to the fifth hour, to morrow after-
noon.
8 month 7th. 1845. Met according to adjourn-
ment. Present 20 members. The Committee
to which was referred the consideration of
the documents issued by the separate Yearly
Meeting, not being ready to report, we have

adjourned to the third hour, tomorrow afternoon.

8 month, 8th. 1845. Met according to adjournment. Present fifteen members.

The Committee to which was referred the consideration of the documents issued by the separate Yearly Meeting, presented the following strictures thereon, which being approved by this meeting, the Clerk is directed to sign the same on our behalf.

Strictures on a Pamphlet purporting to be a "Narrative of Facts and Circumstances," &c. and upon an "Epistle," issued by those who have separated from Friends in New England. By the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting.

"And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and the profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. And in controversy shall they stand in judgment; and they shall judge it according to my judgements; and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies". Ezekiel xliv. 23. 24.

On a perusal of the documents issued by the separate Yearly Meeting, while the foregoing "Epistolary Declaration and Testimony" was passing through the press, several striking errors and inconsistencies are very apparent therein, some of which for the further

clearing of truth, we feel it incumbent upon us briefly to point out.

Although our opponents have from time to time been induced, as we believe, for the purpose of deceiving the unwary with regard to their own standing, to put forth professions of their soundness in the faith of the Gospel as held by Friends, and have now published more extensive extracts from the writings of our early Friends, professing to hold to the same — yet their own documents conclusively show the extraordinary and unwarrantable means which they have resorted to, in order to protect Joseph John Gurney and his unsound writings, from animadversion or exposure. And it is worthy of remark, that they have studiously avoided any comparison of these writings with those of our early Friends. Herein is manifested a great degree of hypocrisy, for as has been fully shown, his writings are clearly and irreconcilably opposed to those of Friends — and moreover, he has by name condemned Barclay Penn and Rutherington as erroneous, charging them, as authors, with defects and errors.

To effect their purpose, they quote a passage from our excellent Discipline, wresting and perverting its true intent and meaning; making it to conflict with another part of the Discipline, which enjoins upon all faithful Friends to testify against those who manifest deviations from our principles; thus this provision so essential to the preservation of our Religious Society on its original ground of doctrine is disallowed and discarded by them. On the fifth page of their Epistle, they warn

their members to beware of controversy; which, they say, "so generally seeks the weak side, not unfrequently attacks character, is dangerous to all" &c.

Now, although we may not fully understand its generally seeking the weak side, we do understand that there are two kinds of controversy, to wit:

1. The controversy of God against evil, or the Lord's controversy against all unrighteousness and iniquity, in which his whole household are concerned and engaged; and without which controversy, his cause and truth would fall and be lost in the earth.

2. The controversy of evil against good, or the continual warfare of the wicked one against the kingdom of Christ. This controversy or warring of the Spirit against the flesh, and of the flesh against the Spirit, has ever been both immediate and instrumental — both outward and inward. But they say it is "dangerous to all". Do they thereby mean that the strife should no longer be kept up on the Lord's side? Will they say that the controversy of Christ with the rulers of the Jews was dangerous, and ought not to have been? Or of Paul with the men of Athens? Or of George Fox and his friends against the false doctrines and vices of that age? Will they say that there is less need now, or rather no need at all, of controverting evil deeds and unsound doctrines? — Friends! the controversy of God in the meekness of wisdom, must and will continue, until "the kingdoms

of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ."

Their own pamphlets now under the consideration of this meeting, contain a system of controversy, which, as we believe, is that of the flesh warring against the spirit.

They next attempt to shield themselves by a caution against impartial investigation, which they seem to be aware, if duly permitted, would prove fatal to the success of their cause. Now mark, from what spirit this fear proceeds. "For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be manifest that they are wrought in God."

The publications which are denominated "pernicious" in the Epistle under review, are similar in character and object, to those written and published by our early Friends in defence of the Truth, and in controverting the unsound principles of their adversaries, who took no less pains to prevent the circulation and to discourage the perusal of Friends' than we now behold; resorting in that day, as in this, to many and various expedients to prejudice and terrify the minds of the people in relation to them, going even to the extremity of burning what they scornfully denominated "pernicious and heretical Quaker books."

Now the object and purport of our adversaries is evidently the same. It is not for the promotion, but for the suppression of

truth. The adversaries of Friends, whether within or without the pale of the Society, have always feared the force of truth and Justice, when exerted in defence of its unchangeable principles and testimonies.

On the same page we understand them to style themselves the regularly constituted body of valuable Friends, giving us to understand that no individual sentiment can be urged against the solid judgement of that body. And we have been told by members of this "Body of valuable Friends" that individuals are bound to submit to its decisions, whether those decisions are right or wrong! Thus it seems they rely more upon their own authority and standing as a Body, than upon the Truth, and right of principle in obtaining credence among men, as did the apostate church in the middle ages!

We fully approve of the extract which they make from an "Ancient Epistle" on their 6th. page; but the advice contained therein most clearly belongs to themselves; inasmuch as these books of their own putting forth, are obviously of the very description therein alluded to.

The extract is as follows:

"If any who are out of the unity with the body of Friends, print or cause to be printed, or published in writing any thing which is not of service for the Truth, but tends to the reproach and scandal of faithful Friends, or to beget or uphold division or faction; there we

to warn and charge all Friends that love the Truth, as they desire it may prosper and be kept clear to beware and take heed of having any hand in printing, publishing or spreading such books or writings.

On pages 3 and 4 of their narrative, they censure J. Tilbur for writing his Letters, published in England. They say they were published but a short time before his return home, and that no action was taken in the case until he arrived. That short time was four months; during which, the Morning Meeting in London granted him a full certificate of unity, and pronounced him to be sound in doctrine.* But the dissatisfaction of the New England Meeting for Sufferings evidently was, that these letters exposed the fallacy and injustice of attempting to confound the views of our early Friends with those of Elias Hicks, which fully appeared from the remarks of some members of that body. This accusation of his want of charity is refuted in his narrative, where also are published those letters which they say were circulated for the purpose of opening the standing of a friend from England, and to obstruct his labors; which letters speak for themselves. (See Appendix to above work.)

*On the 4th page of their Epistle, they hold forth the reasoning, that whatsoever is done and recognized in one Yearly Meeting respecting ministers, rights of membership and intermarriages have not affected by Yearly Meeting lines. We would ask them whether the returning certificates of J. Tilbur from London and Dublin, declaring fully their unity with him and his soundness in doctrine, have been affected by passing the lines of New England Yearly Meeting.

They charge J. Tilbur with detraction during a religious visit in New York in 1839, and say that some ministers and elders treated with him on this account, and insinuate, but unjustly, that they did so more than once. They profess to quote the words used by him in a conference to which they allude, as giving his reasons for the course he had taken, to wit:
"I consider the course I am taking in respect to the friend from England and his writings, to be in the line of my religious duty" — (so far nearly correct,) but the remainder, to wit: "and this I hold to be more binding upon me than any rules of discipline." is not correct; and is a sad perversion of the latter part of the sentence, which was this — "I hold it to be a greater evil on some occasions to conceal the truth, than to develope it;" to which the friend with whom the conference was had, replied, that he had heard of such an adage before, but did not admit it to be correct. But John Tilbur affirms that he had no occasion so to speak of discipline; because we have no discipline that prohibits the exposure of unsound doctrines: but on the contrary, we have enough which calls for their exposure and condemnation. The Narrative under review, fully confirms our statement, that they have upheld and defended J. J. Gurney and his writings, to the great perversion of Quakerism. This is one of the most important points on which the great controversy between them and us hinges. And this point they have decided at different times and in different ways; and decided too, (however

unwittingly on their part,) against themselves. There has all along been such a determination manifested by them to prevent the exposure of Gurney's Doctrines, that they have frequently and in the most tangible, committed themselves thereto. The whole of page 6 is devoted to the defence of an unsound minister; thereby undeniably proving that their sympathies were, in accordance with him. For a complete refutation of their reasoning, see Letter No. 2 in the Appendix to the Exposition.

They attempt to convey the impression on the very loosely expressed testimony of an individual, that the Members of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, generally regretted the manner in which I. Wilbur was conducting towards the minister referred to.
This was not the case, as is clearly shown by the acquittal of I. Wilbur from their charges by that Monthly Meeting.

They next introduce a letter which was written by a member of the Select Quarterly Meeting's Committee to I. Wilbur, touching his intended visit to the eastern Quarterly Meetings of this Yearly Meeting, which letter he did not receive until his return home. However, by the former letter therein alluded to, which did not come to hand until after the time proposed for the interview had passed, he learned something of their object; and as he passed on his journey, he called upon the writer of the letter, who, after inquiring into the circumstances, entirely concurred in his proceeding on his visit, and gave him a letter to another of the Committee, whom it was expected he would meet on his way. The same Friend subsequently wrote a conciliatory letter to a daughter of

J. Wilbur, in which he says that Friends had no desire to prevent her father from pursuing his journey. Nor did any of the Committee with whom he met while thus engaged, discourage him from proceeding. And as an evidence that J. Wilbur was cordially received without censure by Friends in the prosecution of this journey, it may be proper to say, that he received returning minutes from every meeting for discipline which he attended; and these were quite numerous. (See also the letter to J. A. in his Narrative, p. 209.)

They next refer to the Select Quarterly Meeting's Committee, which is mentioned in John Wilbur's Narrative, as having been got up in a deceptive manner, under the pretence of visiting subordinate meetings for the restoration of unity and harmony, a service which they never attempted to perform, according to their own confession. For the interview which that Committee had with J. W., see his account of it in his "Narrative", pp. 36, 37— 253, as read before the Yearly Meeting's Committee on his appeal, and not contradicted. The same account exhibits the manner in which that Select Quarterly Meeting's Committee censured him for writing and speaking against J. J. Gurney and his doctrines, thereby they palpably committed themselves to those doctrines. At that interview they asked him "if he believed any of the members of our Select Quarterly Meeting were unsound". If they could prove that J. W. had circulated

reports that an individual among us had imbibed unsound principles, why put such a question to him in Committee, and prep him for an answer, unless to seek an occasion against him?

They next refer to the account furnished by a Friend who was travelling among us in 1840, as companion to a minister from a Distant Yearly Meeting,* and to his letter written more than two years thereafter, stating that he and the minister referred to, did not believe with I. W. on many points. This was true, especially as it related to the writer of the letter, who clearly identified himself with Beaconism in relation to inward, immediate revelation, and in his views respecting the resurrection of the body &c. But although some parts of this letter are correct, the same cannot be said of the whole; for the inquiry after the standing of individuals was on their part; and the sequel has proved the truth of I. W.'s statements. If these men disagreed with I. W. on points of faith, we apprehend that the defect must be on their part, for we, as well as his enimies, have owned and do own him, to be sound in the doctrines of Friends.

But exceptions are taken to the word "brought", and to the phrase "controlling influence which was not a religious but a mixed one," which latter expression I. W. does not recollect. But we need only refer all who have been conversant with the conduct of affairs in New England Yearly Meeting of late, to their own knowledge thereof for the truth of this assertion; and if he did say that the individual alluded to had been brought, it

* Indiana

was no more than he heard two members of the Yearly Meeting's Committee say of the same individual previously to their coming under the same influence.

They state that these strangers proffered their information to the committee; and aver that "these Friends believed it to be their religious duty" so to do: howbeit, the writer of that letter in a subsequent communication to a member of R. I. Quarterly Meeting says they were "almost compelled" to make the disclosures they did; and condemns their having done so without first having had an interview with I. Tilbur.

In their account of an interview with I. Tilbur by two of the Yearly Meeting's Committee, in the presence of South Kingstown select members, (see their Narrative, p. 13) they have wholly omitted to relate the extraordinary facts that occurred there, which are recorded in his Exposition, p. 45. and susceptible of proof by the whole number of ministers and elders present; but which these two members of the committee denied before their colleagues, at Greenwich, in the 5th. month following; with no more truth than the subsequent denial by the same persons, of their attempt prematurely to break up South Kingstown monthly meeting.

In the statements of our opponents, attempts are purposely made to injure I. Tilbur's religious character by charging him with stubbornefs and wilfulnefs; accusations which were made against the early Friends, because they could not for conscience sake condemn their course: neither could he, because the stand which he had taken

was the same as theirs, — against unsound doctrines and against unjust proceedings in defence of those doctrines and their authors.

The old ground that acts committed or sentements advanced prior to the date of a certificate, are beyond the reach of investigation wherever the bearer of that certificate inclines to go, we find again advanced on page 15 of their pamphlet: making thereby no reserve for immoral conduct nor yet for the apostacy of the body granting such certificate!

This doctrine can be well pleasing to none but those who are willing the Church should lapse into an apostate condition. To this number the writers of this document must belong, who strive to delude the unwary by a plausible pretension of supporting the discipline and order of the Society. And it is most astonishing that a body making the professions of soundness in doctrine which they have made in this book should run into so gross an error as this — that a man may publish to the whole world the rankest infidelity, and still by the personal influence of a few of his friends, hold his place as a member and minister of the Society, and by the same means obtain a certificate to travel abroad on religious service, and actually travel and labor by virtue of such certificate, while those infidel principles remain unretracted! In short if this position be correct, that very discipline which had its origin in the truth would cease to be salutary — would effectually protect any popular innovator in his attempts to subvert the faith of the Gospel — would make the handmaid of truth the destroyer of her mistress. If every Yearly Meeting were indeed infallible, and

that condition could never be lost, then there might be some reason for such a rule, but not otherwise. The primitive church fell, and the modern surely is no safer. If the different bodies instead of sanctioning one another's faults, as here proposed, were a check upon each other, great benefit might result therefrom.*

* They say in alluding to J. J. Gurney, that he produced a full certificate of unity from Friends in England. This assertion applies more to the wording of this certificate than to the unity expressed in the select Yearly Meeting in London; wherein it has been affirmed by credible witnesses present on that occasion, that more than twenty ministers and elders in that meeting openly objected to his liberation for service in this country. But however full, or fully united with his certificate might have been, the conclusion which they attempt to draw therefrom will not hold good; in evidence of which we extract the following testimony from Foster's Reports:
"Question. Although a minister may at a previous time have been supposed by individuals to have delivered exceptionable doctrines, yet if none such have been delivered in the course of his ministry during the period of the Yearly Meeting, would such a minute involve the meeting in an approbation of all his previous doctrines?
"Answer. No minute would be given; and if it should, I apprehend it would be very indiscreet, if it was within their knowledge. S. Bettle."
"Question. Would the Ohio Yearly Meeting give a minute of approbation to a Friend whom they knew to have propagated unsound doctrines within the limits of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, although within the limits of the said Ohio Yearly Meeting his conduct and doctrines might have been correct?"
"Answer. I think they ought not and would not, if he had thus transgressed, or been guilty of immoral conduct, S. Bettle."

On page 18 they say that in the 11th mo. 1841. J. Wilbur "desired the select members of his own Monthly Meeting might make a firm stand against the measures of the Quarterly Meeting." None of the Committee were present on the occasion alluded to, and this of course is a mere hearsay statement— and so far as relates to "the measures of the Quarterly Meeting" it is proved by half the number present to be untrue— the true version being that he "desired them faithfully to renounce and stand against the defective doctrines of Joseph John Gurney." In a note on page twenty, they attempt to make it appear right, that John Wilbur should not have the benefit of the judgement of overseers and the preparative meeting, by saying, that "the existing state of things in different meetings, has rendered a departure from this course necessary in divers instances," &c.— but they have not ventured to say that such departures, subversive as it was of individual rights, was in this case necessary, nor indeed have they given proof of such necessity in any other.

For an account of further proceedings in this case, and for the correction of the many gross misrepresentations they have made we refer to the appeal of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, and to its statement before the Yearly Meeting's Committee, wherein things are plainly and candidly set forth. We would just remark, however, that after the decision of S. K. Monthly Meeting in favor of J. Wilbur, they appear to have discovered that some of the Committee appointed in his case, were distantly related to him; and although no objection on the ground of relationship was at all hinted,

until they reported, yet since that event, a great outcry has been made on that account. But this matter is clearly set forth in the appeal above alluded to. (See Narrative and Exposition, pp. 119–185.)

The following note is at the bottom of page twenty seven of their pamphlet, "Two of the Yearly Meeting's Committee present at this time, have been charged with attempting to break up the meeting, while the report was under consideration in the women's meeting, which charge they utterly deny." Now the truth of this charge has been proved by the testimony of six or eight credible witnesses who saw the fact in question. (See Narrative and Exposition, pp. 88–92.) This being the fact, what credence can be given to the statements of these men and their associates in the details of this case? What confidence can be placed in men so lost to moral and religious integrity! In this professed of the case they have entirely omitted an account of their Yearly Meeting's Committee joining in the attempt to bring about a separation in South Kingstown Monthly Meeting in the 7th. mo. 1842; which was as palpable an outrage as this attempt to pervert and turn aside the judgement of the meeting; so that they appear to charge us with tumult and disorder, to cover their own most disorderly proceedings!

On page 27 of their pamphlet are the advice and injunctions of the Quarterly Meeting's Committee to South Kingstown Monthly Meeting. Afterwards they affect to say or make it appear that the Monthly meeting refused this advice; when the

fact was, it received the document, put it on record, and deferred the consideration of it for one months; containing as it did matters altogether new and unprecedented.

They say further that the Monthly Meeting "was bound to receive this advice by the provisions of the discipline ;— and then, if not satisfied therewith, to appeal therefrom."

Now the fact is, no such discipline exists, nor is there any provision for an appeal from the advice of a committee.

The latter part of one of the pamphlets now under consideration, contains a confession of faith, extracted from the writings of our forefathers; in the publication of whose religious principles we "do rejoice and will rejoice," as said the Apostle in relation to to the preaching of Christ, whether it was done of envy or good will" — "whether in pretence or in truth; but yet without justifying those who preached him hypocritically.

But we would that our opponents were prepared to prove their faith by their works, inasmuch as another Apostle declares that "faith without works is dead." As the faith of a body or social compact, in that the faithful observance of a just discipline is dead and of no avail.

But our opponents have heretofore been exceedingly defective in both, — having endorsed the unsound doctrines of an individual, and also grievously violated our discipline. While the Yearly Meeting's Committee were in full expectation of crushing all who dared to controvert the new doctrines, they both individually and collectively endorsed the views of J. J. Gurney. But after some doubt, as to their success had arisen,

they declined answering questions in relation to the soundness of these doctrines, when put to them by J. Wilbur on the investigation of his case, by a committee of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, to whom they submitted the question for decision whether he should be allowed to introduce doctrines in his defence — and which that committee decided in the affirmative.*

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* The following is extracted from the minutes kept by the committee of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting on the occasion referred to. "The testimony of William Jenkins having been introduced by the Yearly Meeting's committee" [in regard to the disclosures made by the minister and his companion before referred to] "John Wilbur commenced his defence by calling upon him to say whether he held to the doctrines of the ancient Friends, as laid down by Fox, Barclay, Penn &c. or to those of Joseph John Gurney, which differ from them? J. Wilbur producing some extracts from J.J.G's writings which had been submitted to the meeting for Sufferings for examination touching their soundness by South Kingstown Monthly Meeting. W. Jenkins replied that he should answer no such questions. He said the committee were not to be catechized in this manner. They should be careful not to submit to dictation or usurpation. They would not implicate themselves. He could answer for all the committee, they would not respond to any such questions."
"John Wilbur said it had always been the practice of our early Friends to clear up any doubts or to answer any questions which might arise

However, like their favorite author, and like the follow-
ers of Elias Hicks, when asked if they held to the Doct-

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as to our Doctrines and Testimonies, as all present well know,
and if such question should arise on the part of any, even
of a child, with respect to them, he should consider it a
privilege to answer it. He then turned to other members of the
Committee, and put to them the same inquiry. Thomas
Anthony said they could answer no questions as to
doctrines — doctrines had nothing to do with this
case. Rowland Greene said that "although he
did not feel himself bound to do it, yet he would
say that he believed in the doctrines and princi-
ples of the Society of Friends as laid down in the
Scriptures of Truth."
"John Wilbur said "Elias Hicks did the same, Elisha
Bates did the same, Isaac Crewdson did the same,
and this Committee now do the same."
"The Yearly Meeting's Committee took the ground
that we as a Committee of the Monthly Meeting
had no right to set up ourselves as judges of doctrine,
— that if we entered into doctrine we should assume
authority to decide that the great body of the Yearly
Meeting are unsound if we take into view the great
unanimity of it, in granting Joseph John Gurney a
returning certificate."
The question whether J. Wilbur should be allowed to go
into doctrines in his defence, was at length referred
to the Monthly Meeting's Committee, who gave a
written decision, allowing J. W. to introduce such ev-
idence as to doctrines as appeared essentially to
relate to the case; whereupon the Yearly Meeting's
Committee at once withdrew, not remaining to hear
the defence."

rines of the early Friends, they very generally answered in the affirmative, thus affecting to reconcile principles which are utterly irreconciliable.

And at a later period when the persecutions they had inflicted, and the violation of order they had produced, brought about a crisis, and they became seriously alarmed regarding numbers, and their identity with the Society of Friends, as well as in relation to the destination of the Society's property— they have at length put forth a still higher profession of faith in Friend's doctrines. But have they now renounced Gurney's doctrines? or have they reconciled them with those of Friends? No; they have refused to do the one, or to attempt the other. But as the case now stands, they having defended him in the strongest manner, they must publickly condemn those doctrines, and retract their unjust proceedings before their professions of a belief in primitive Quakerism can avail them anything. The rubbish must be removed before the foundation of a good house can be laid. By their refusal to condemn Gurney's doctrines, and their continued protection and defence of them, they throw themselves into a mixture of truth and error from which it will be impossible for them either to extricate themselves, or successfully to repel the charge of inconsistency and absurdity, until they shall have abandoned such ground. In corroboration of which, we refer to an occurrence which took place at New Bedford Monthly Meeting since our late Yearly Meeting. It was on the occasion of a separation in that Monthly Meeting, and Committees were present from the Quarterly Meeting to which it belongs, wherein a division had previously taken place. The "Epistle" we have remarked upon was read,

and information was called for by members of the meeting, and freely given by Friends; bringing to view the subject of doctrine. Abraham Shearman jr. the signer of the document, under consideration, including their declaration of Faith, was called upon by one of his fellow members (divers members of this our Meeting for sufferings being present) and desired to answer for the further information and satisfaction of the meeting, whether he believed the doctrines of J. J. Gurney to be sound or unsound, yea or nay? This question, though propsed repeatedly, Abraham Shearman Jr. declined answering; whereupon the enquirer reminded him, that such refusal was to him, sufficient evidence that he (A.S. jr.) did believe in the doctrines of Joseph J. Gurney, and he thought the meeting would so consider it. To this no reply was made. The great inconsistency of Gurney's doctrines with those of Friends, has been brought to view in the comparison published by the Yearly Meeting — yet on a former occasion, "A. S. jr. said that he believed that Gurney's doctrines, when compared one with another, would very nearly, if not entirely, comport with the doctrines of our early Friends."

Notwithstanding the many and grievous departures from Truth and uprightness which have been in the preceding pages fairly laid at the door of our opponents; what fair words and smooth speeches proceed from their lips! What high professions of concern for the honor of Truth! With what "tenderness and brotherly regard" do they profess to have entreated D. W. "to turn from his course, and make those concessions which" they say, "the cause of Truth required!" Truly there is no

evil more displeasing in the sight of God, than hypocrisy. May Friends every where be preserved from it— may they be sincere, sober and watchful walking in the fear of the Lord.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting, held at Newport on the 8th. of 8th mo. 1845.

George F. Read, Clerk.

The Committee appointed to prepare an essay of communication to the Meetings for Sufferings of other Yearly Meetings presented the following, which is approved by this meeting; and the Clerk is directed to sign the same, on our behalf, and forward it to the respective Meetings for Sufferings, together with the printed document therein named.

Dear Friends

Under a serious consideration of the state of our Religious Society, we have felt an engagement briefly to address you at this time, fervently desiring that the blessing of preservation may rest upon us, and that Friends everywhere may be increasingly concerned to rally to the standard of Truth, and to support the ancient principles and testimonies thereof in accordance with our Christian profession, and upon original grounds.

You are doubtless aware that for several years past, a spirit of unbelief in some of the distinguishing doctrinal views of Friends has

been manifested on the part of many of the members of this Yearly Meeting, in whom from the stations which they have held in Society, and from the desolations which they have produced, the mournful language has been renewedly verified, "O, my people, they that lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths."

Among those who have imbibed this spirit of unbelief in our fundamental principles, and who have been engaged in the introduction and support of unsound doctrines, many of the individuals, who have stood for several years under appointment, as the Representatives of this Yearly Meeting, during its recess, have from the earliest manifestation of that spirit rendered themselves very conspicuous, and with a very few exceptions, all those who constituted a Meeting for Sufferings last year have identified themselves in the schism which took place at our last Yearly Meeting, and united in laying their records before a separate Body.

This may in some degree account for and explain the extraordinary written communication which was issued by them in the eighth month last year, and forwarded to the Meetings for Sufferings of other Yearly Meetings, and which was afterwards printed in connection with other matter, purporting to represent the state of our Religious Society within some parts of our Yearly Meeting, and also professing to show the cause of the schism which had then been effected by some of their own members in Rhode Island Quarterly

Meeting.

This printed circular was extensively spread abroad in the Society; and as it reflected darkly on Friends, and was calculated to produce the most erroneous impressions in regard to the subject of which it professed to give a true account, we have thought fit for the purpose of correcting those misstatements, to send you the accompanying "Address" of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, and by which also the erroneous statements contained in the document, signed by Samuel Boyd Tobey are refuted.

It may be proper to inform you that in this Yearly Meeting, the Meeting for Sufferings is not a permanent body, it being annually appointed or reappointed; and of latter times, this has been done in an exclusive manner, as it respects those who were known to dissent from the new doctrines; while such as were committed to those doctrines have been retained in office notwithstanding their well known defection in principle and inconsistency in practice.

This has been effected through their own personal influence, and the general declension of many into ~~into~~ the doctrinal errors which themselves has imbibed, and which have at length resulted in the separation of a large number from our Religious Society, and the establishment of a new Yearly Meeting, for a more particular account of which we refer you to the accompanying "Epistolary Declaration and Testimony of

the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, which also exhibits the contrast between the doctrines promulgated and supported by the Separatists, and those which have always been held by Friends — and to which we have appended some strictures upon a document, entitled, "A narrative of Facts and Circumstances" &c, and an Epistle to their subordinate Meetings, both of which are signed by Abraham Sherman jr and Hannah Gould jr as Clerks thereof.

With the salutation of love, we remain your Friends and Brethren.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Newport, the eighth of eighth month. 1845.

George F. Read, Clerk.

The case of printing the document, issued by this Meeting, entitled Strictures &c is referred to the Committee who were appointed to superintend the publication of the Epistolary declaration and testimony, issued by the Yearly Meeting, with the addition of Charles Perry, Thomas P. Nichols & Ethan Foster.
They are also requested to append said strictures to the above mentioned document, and report the expense of both documents to our next Meeting.
Our business being accomplished, at this time, we have concluded to adjourn to meet

at Lynn, at the 9th hour of the day of holding Salem Select Quarterly Meeting, in the Eighth month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Lynn, 8 month. 20th. 1845. Present 11 members.

Attention having been given to some subjects which were presented for our consideration, we have concluded to adjourn to meet at Fall River, at the tenth hour of the day following Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, in the Eleventh month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Fall River, 11 mo. 7th. 1845. Present 24 members.

The Clerk being absent, Harvey Chace was appointed Clerk for the day.

The Committee having charge of printing the documents issued by the Yearly Meeting, and by this Meeting, not being ready to make a full report, are continued, and desired to report to our next meeting.

The situation of Friends in different Quarterly Meetings having been brought to our view, and weightily considered by us, we have concluded to appoint Seth Davis, John Wilbur, Prince Gardiner, Job Soy, Benjamin Tucker, Jonathan Nichols, Thomas

B. Gould, Ethan Foster, Israel Buffinton, Harvey Chase, Laban Paddock & James C. Tilton, a committee to extend such care and give such advice in relation thereto as may may open for, and report to this Meeting, as occasion may require.

Our business being accomplished at this time, we conclude, purposing to meet again in Fall River, at the usual time, in the 2d month next.

Harvey Chase, Clerk for the day.

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Fall River, 2 month 6th. 1846. Present 15 members.

The Committee having charge of printing the document, issued by the Yearly Meeting, and by this Meeting, inform that the Document referred to have been printed, and spread among Friends and others; but not being ready to make a full report, they are continued, and requested to report to our next Meeting.

The Clerk of this Meeting read at this time two communications, one of which was signed by the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings for Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and the other by the Clerk of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, by which it appears that the documents issued by the Yearly Meeting, and by this Meeting, have been directed to be returned by those Meetings respectively.

Our business being accomplished at this time, we conclude, purposing to meet again in Fall River, at the usual time, in the 5th month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 5th Month 8th 1846. — Present 14 members.

The Clerk being absent at this time Charles Perry was appointed to serve as Clerk for the day.

The Committee having charge of the printing of the documents issued by the Yearly Meeting and by this meeting have reported as follows —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends.

"The Committee appointed in the Seventh and eighth months last to attend to the printing and distribution of the 'Epistolary Declaration and Testimony' issued by our last Yearly Meeting, and the 'Strictures on a Narrative of Facts and Circumstances, &c' published by the Separatists, report that they have attended to the service assigned them, and as directed 5,000 copies of each of these documents have been printed, (stitched and covered in one pamphlet) the expense of which including the cost of transportation to different Yearly Meetings was $. 305 86/100 - This amount was paid by the Committee, and has been on interest since the 10th of 9th Month last.

About 3000 copies of these pamphlets have

been distributed within the limits of other Yearly Meetings on this continent; 250 were forwarded to England and upwards of 1000 copies have been circulated within this Yearly Meeting, Six hundred and fifty copies still remain on hand."

"East Greenwich 5th mo. 7th 1846."

John Wilbur } on behalf of
Charles Penny } the Committee

which report is accepted, and Charles Penny is authorized to draw on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for the amount, including interest due on that account.

Memorials from Swanzey Monthly Meeting approved by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting concerning our late beloved Friends Benjamin Buffinton, and Ruth Buffinton wife of David Buffinton have been read in this Meeting to our edification and comfort, and we appoint our Friends Thomas B. Gould Charles Penny and Thomas P. Nichols to consider and revise the same and produce them to a future meeting.

The clerk of this meeting has received a communication from the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings in London, by which we are informed that our Epistle to them of the 8th month last has been returned unread.

The subject of making provision for our approaching Yearly Meeting coming before us at this time it is concluded to appoint our Friends Israel Buffinton Amos C. Wilbur Nathan Buffinton Thomas P. Nichols and Benjamin Tucker to take the necessary care therein and Rhode Island Monthly

5)

Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore.

The Committee is authorized to draw on the Yearly Meeting Treasurer for the expenses thereof.

The Clerk is requested to furnish Rhode Island Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute.

Our business having been accomplished at this time we conclude, purposing to meet again at Newport on seventh day the 13th of sixth month next at 6th hour in the afternoon.

Charles Perry Clerk for the day

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 6 mo. 13. 1846. Present 25 members.

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to to consider and revise the memorials concerning Benjamin Buffington & Ruth Buffington deceased, presented them at this time, which having been read, they are approved by this Meeting, and the Clerk is directed to forward them to the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed in the 11th month last, to extend such care and give such advice in relation to the situation of Friends in different Quarterly Meetings, as way may open for, report that they have paid attention to the object of their appointment, as occasion seemed to require it.

Having given attention to some other subjects which came before this meeting, the Clerk is

directed to lay our records before the Yearly Meeting.

Our busineſs having been accomplished at this time, we have adjourned to meet at the close of the Yearly Meeting.

George F. Read, Clerk

~~At a~~ Meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at the rise of the Yearly Meeting, Newport 6 mo. 19. 1846. Present 33 members.

We have received the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting viz

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, from the 14th to the 19th of the 6 mo. inclusive:

The committee appointed at a previous sitting to consider of the names of Friends, to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings produced the following viz. Francis Taber, Hezekiah Swain, John Wilbur, Hezekiah Barnard, Seth Davis, Job Eddy, Jonathan Nichols, Henry Gould, Prince Gardner, Oliver Chace, Nathan Page, George C. Kenyon, John Mitchell, Thomas B. Gould, Thomas Wilbur, Joseph Meader, George F. Read, William B. Oliver, Charles Perry, John S. Kenyon, William Hill, Harvey Chase, Benjamin Tucker, Thomas K. Wilbur, Ethan Foster, Amos C. Wilbur, Othniel Foster, Laban Paddock, James Austin, Israel Buffington, Palmer Chace, George M. Eddy, Nathan Buffington, Thomas P. Nichols, Thomas Foster, Christy Davis, Peleg Mitchell, Pelatiah Hussey, Francis Taber, Valentine Meader and James D. Peckham, which being approved by this meeting, they are accordingly appointed to that service, for the year ensuing.

We have appointed George F. Read, to serve this meeting, as clerk for the ensuing year.

We have concluded to meet ~~at~~ ~~[illegible]~~; at the 3d hour of the day of holding the select Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island, in the 8th. month at Newport, in the 11th month, at Fall River, in the 2d month at North Providence, and at the time of holding the select Quarterly Meeting of Sandwich in the 4th. month, at New Bedford.

Our business being accomplished at this time, we conclude, purposing to meet again at Newport, on the day of holding the select Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island, in the 8th month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 8th month 5th. 1846 — Present Sixteen members

Sth. Clerke of this meeting being absent, Isaac Buffinton is appointed clerke for the day.

The Committee appointed in the fifth month last to provide for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting report, That the expense amounting to Seventy Six Dollars and seventy eight cents, has been paid by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting; which is satisfactory to this meeting.

Received at this time the following Extract from the minutes of our last Yearly Meeting, viz—

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, by adjournments from the 24th of the Sixth Month to the 1st of the same inclusive, 1846

The painfully interesting subject of Slavery having been weightily introduced and solidly considered in this meeting, and the propriety of memorializing the National Legislature, or addressing the people of the United States on this great and alarming iniquity in our land, being proposed, the further consideration thereof is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings; which is encouraged to embrace every right opening to promote the concern of this meeting.—

Extracted from the minutes of said Meeting

Thomas B. Gould Clerk

which being weightily considered in this meeting — It is concluded to appoint our friends Thomas Wilbur, Thomas B. Gould, Francis Taber, John Wilbur, Nathan Buffinton, Isaac Buffinton and George C. Kenyon to take the subject into their serious consideration, and make such report thereon as may open for at our next Meeting.—

Having disposed of the business which came before us

we, conclude; proposing to meet at Fall River at the usual time in the Eleventh Month next.

Isaac Buffington
Clerk for the Day

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 11mo. 4. 1846. Present 27 Members.

A communication from the Standing Committee of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland has been read at this time; whereupon we appoint Francis Taber, John Wilbur, Thomas B. Gould, Harvey Chace, William Hill, Israel Buffington Prince Gardiner, and Nathan Buffington to take the subject into their serious consideration, and report their judgement as to the disposition of it to a future ~~sitting~~ meeting.

We have concluded to adjourn to the sixth hour this evening.

Evening, met according to adjournment. Present 27 members.
The Committee to which was referred the subject of Slavery, not being ready to make a full report at this time, are continued and William B. Oliver, Charles Perry, Ethan Foster, Harvey Chase, Nathan Page, James Austin, Laban Paddock and William Hill are added to that committee, and are requested in conjunction with those previously appointed to take the subject into further consideration, and report to a future ~~sitting~~ meeting.

We have concluded to adjourn to the ninth hour to morrow morning.

11mo. 5. Met according to adjournment. Present 27 members.

Under a consideration of the want of information still existing with regard to the true causes of the separation which has lately occurred within the limits of this Yearly Meeting, friends have, at our several sittings, been introduced into much exercise and concern on that account; and earnest desires have been felt and expressed, that we may be careful to embrace every right opening which may present, to spread the information which appears to be so much needed; and we accordingly appoint Job Eddy, Lahan Paddock, Prince Gardiner, Charles Perry, John Wilbur, William Hill, Harvey Chase, Benjamin Jacka, Ethan Foster, William B. Oliver, Israel Buffington, Thomas B. Gould and Nathan Page, to have the subject under their care and report their judgement and proceedings therein, at a future ~~sitting~~ meeting.

Having closed the business at this time, we conclude, purposing to meet again at N. Providence, at the usual time, in the 2d month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

At a meeting for Sufferings held at North Providence 2d Month 3d 1847. Present 14 members.

The clerk of this meeting not being present Charles Peny is appointed clerk for this time.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the communication from the Standing Committee of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland, not being ready to report, are continued and requested to report at our next meeting.

The Committee on the subject of Slavery inform that they have given some attention to the matter of their appointment - but not being ready to report at this time are again continued -

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the want of correct information which still exists respecting the late separation within the limits of this Yearly Meeting - report, that they have paid attention to the subject; which is satisfactory to the Meeting - and they are continued for further labor therein as way may open for it.

In view of the destitute situation of this Yearly Meeting in respect to a suitable house in which to hold the Yearly Meeting consequent upon the separatists having appropriated our Meeting house at Newport to their exclusive use, it is concluded to appoint our Friends Joel Eddy, Israel Buffington, Harvey Chace, William Hicks, George C. Kenyon, Thomas Wilbur, Charles Peny and Thomas B. Gould, to take into consideration the subject of making the necessary provision for our approaching

Yearly Meeting in this and other respects, in which Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore -

The Committee is authorized to draw on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for the ordinary expenses thereof.

The Clerk is requested to furnish Rhode Island Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute.

The extreme suffering of a large proportion of the people of Ireland in consequence of their being deprived to a great extent of their usual means of subsistence, claiming our serious consideration and near sympathy, it is concluded to appoint our friends, Obadiah Foster, Thomas P. Nichols, Thomas D. Gould, Israel Buffington, Thomas Willett, Harvey Chace, George C. Kinyon, Prince Gardner, James Austin, Job Eddy, Francis Taber Jr, Benjamin Tucker, Thomas K. Willett, James D. Peckham, Jonathan Nichols, William B. Chace, Celestial Arnold, William Hill, and Charles Penn, of our different Quarterly Meetings, to promote subscriptions in their respective neighborhoods for the relief of the sufferers, and they are requested to forward the amount of such subscriptions to William Hill of North Berwick, Maine, or Charles Penn Wakefield R.I. by them to be remitted to the "Central Committee of Friends in Dublin"; and the Committee now appointed is requested to report their doings at a future meeting.

The business which has come before us, having been accomplished, we conclude; purposing to meet again at New Bedford, at the appointed time in the Third week next.

Obadiah Foster Clerk pro tem.

At a meeting for Sufferings, held at New Bedford, 3mo 31. 1841. Present - 23 members

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the communication from the Standing Committee of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland, not being ready to make a full report are continued, and requested to report to our next meeting.

The Committee to which was referred the subject of Slavery produced the following essay thereon, namely: -

Testimony of the religious society of Friends, against Slavery; — revised, by the representatives of New England Yearly Meeting.

We have felt it a duty incumbent upon us, at this time, to renew our religious testimony against the iniquitous system of Slavery. The present peculiar and alarming condition of our country, in its relation to this fearfully important subject, has awakened in our minds, feelings of deep solicitude; and we desire to give forth a faithful and honest expression of our concern. We will travail therein, with no other than a fervent hope that we may be found laboring, according to our ability, for the promotion of that peace on earth and good will to men which characterized the Gospel of our blessed Redeemer.

The considerations growing out of this momentous subject are such as, duly weighed, will serve, and fill us with the liveliest

apprehensions for our country's welfare. The enormous wrong of Slavery not only still continues in this highly professing land; but notwithstanding the many noble examples and testimonies against it, and the indefatigable labors of Christians and philanthropists many years for its abolition, it is still multiplying its victims, and even now is seeking by violence and blood, to enlarge its borders. The desolating scourge of war, with its host of revolting crimes and horrors, has been carried, by this nation, into the heart of a neighboring republic, with the undisguised purpose of despoiling it of a large portion of its territory; and, as seems evident from the circumstances by which it is marked, with a view to re-establish Slavery where it has already been abolished by a less enlightened people. The Slave-trade, the abhorrence of all good men, is carried on in the midst of our country. From the border Slave States to the far South and Southwest, the vessels of the Slave-trader regularly ply, laden with youthful victims, reared like cattle for the market. All the tenderties of kindred and home are unfeelingly disregarded, and they are bound, and hunted, and tortured, under the oppressor's lash in a distant clime, — and this with the sanction and under the protection of the laws.

Such is the sorrowful spectacle which this professedly christian land now exhibits before the world. How great a reproach to the christian name, and how widely opposite, in all its features, to the christian character! Instead of love to our neighbor,

a system of robbery and outrage upon him. Instead of endeavoring to raise the colored man up from his degradation and woe, the foot is ruthlessly placed upon his neck, preventing even his own efforts for improvement. Throughout the whole land, whether bond or free, he is subjected to an inveterate prejudice against his color and his race, which lies as an incubus upon him scarcely less cruel than slavery itself. Shall there be no end to oppression like this? How long shall the crushed bondman in vain appeal to a professedly christian people for relief? How long shall he be ranked with the brute that perisheth, by his brother man? Shall this devoted country continue always forging chains for the bondman's limbs, and shutting shackles on his mind? Will not the Lord in righteousness visit for these things? will he not be avenged on such a nation as this? Oh that we may lay these things to heart, and be wise before the judgments of the most High come heavily upon us!

But how shall this deep-rooted evil be overcome? What power is potent enough to withstand its encroachments, and to turn back its desolating tide?

The christian principle alone is sufficient for these things. By the prevalence of Christianity in its purity, by the power of the Gospel which shall soften the hard heart and overcome the depravities of wicked men, this monstrous evil must be met and at all, and turned back in its course. The weapons of the Christian warfare are not carnal, but spiritual. Might,

through God, to the pulling down of the strong-holds of sin and Satan. In proportion as the pure and undefiled religion of Christ prevails, slavery, as well as every other crime & species of iniquity, will be overcome.

We desire, then, to encourage all those who feel constrained to exert themselves for the overthrow of this system of oppression, and for the bringing in of a better day, that they should labor in the ability that Christ giveth them; remembering that all things, even the hearts of the slave-masters, are in the hands of Him who can accomplish His purposes in a manner marvellous to the sons of men, and who will yet, we verily believe, make bare His arm for the deliverance of the captive, and the opening of the prison-doors to them that are bound &.

And especially would we call with earnestness upon those who are making profession of the name of Christ, in the different religious denominations in this land, to enter into a serious consideration of their responsibilities and their duty in regard to this evil. We are constrained to see that far too much apathy in the sufferings and claims of the down-trodden slave, has hitherto prevailed among these bodies; nay more, most of them are still implicated in the oppressor's guilt by participating, either directly or indirectly, in his deeds. Some seem to have been restrained from the performance of their duty herein, by the apprehension that the agitation of this question would mar that harmony so desirable among brethren of the same religion, faith. But it must be

remembered, that, if slavery is seen to be repugnant to the Spirit and precepts of Christianity, no Society which tolerates it can justly claim to be called the Church of Christ; for that Church is declared to be "without spot or wrinkle, or any such thing." That is but a mere outward harmony, and is time valueless, false and delusive in its character, which is gained by the sacrifice of principles. But it has been with a hopeful spirit that we have lately seen indications of a growing zeal in the cause of the slave, among some professing Christians. We desire to encourage them in well-doing, and to this end may be excused for alluding to the example of our own religious society, which, for the greater part of a century, has borne a practical testimony against this great system of wickedness and cruelty.

Drawn into the practice of slave-keeping at a time when it was not viewed as wrong by the generality of Christians, the Society of Friends soon discerned its iniquity, and raised its voice against it. The work began with individuals who were first led to see the great wrong of the system; and, by a faithful adherence to the inwarring Guide, they were enabled to labor abundantly for the convincement and reclamation of their fellow-members who were concerned in it. The service of those who, from a sense of religious duty, were, from time to time, engaged in this great work, consisted often in private individual labor with those of their brethren who held

slaves. These were visited at their own houses — were labored with at their own firesides; and, although these visits of love were not always kindly received, and were sometimes very trying and painful, yet the at whose bidding they went forth, often made a way for them, where there appeared no way; and as they evinced a spirit of meekness and self-denial therein, seeking for themselves no earthly reward, a favorable impression was generally made, even on minds inured to the system from habit and education, and often blinded by self-interest and prejudice. And in our religious assemblies, these faithful laborers failed not, in the same spirit of meekness and wisdom, to urge upon their fellow-members the abandonment of a system so fraught with woe, until at length it was made a disownable offence, and the society was cleared of all participation in it. So successful had been the labors bestowed, that, comparatively, but few actual disownments took place. Nearly all who had been concerned in slavery gave freedom to their slaves, and even, in many cases, made them remuneration for their past services.

This sketch is given with no view to arrogate any thing to ourselves above others; it is the labor of a past and honored generation, under the direction, as we reverently believe, of the Divine teaching; and for ourselves we only desire to be enabled to follow them as they followed Christ. But we are brought to the serious and very important inquiry, whether, if all the different religious denominations in our land

would take the same ground which they took, and faithfully maintain it, the system of Slavery, with its host of concomitant vices and crimes, could withstand their united efforts. We verily believe it could not. How great, then, almost beyond expression, is the responsibility resting upon them, that they should no longer turn a deaf ear to the sighing of the bondman; but, remembering his deep distress and degradation as though bound with him, that they should use their great influence for his deliverance, and the amelioration and improvement of his condition! May they be encouraged to enter into this labor, and to persevere faithfully therein; knowing that their reward shall be sure from Him who has said "Inasmuch as ye have ministered unto these the least of my brethren, ye have ministered unto me." "If ye know these things" said our blessed Saviour, "happy are ye if ye do them." No mere profession of religion, no acknowledgment of the doctrines of the Gospel, nor yet the practice of a round of religious observances, will avail any thing, so long as there is an unwillingness to do the Divine will, and the fruits of righteousness be wanting; "For He hath showed thee, O man! what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Far better is it to be in fellowship with those who, though few in number, are walking by this rule, than with those who can boast of numbers, wealth, and influence, if the spirit of oppression is in their hands; for the cry of the oppressed reaches the ear of Him

who beholds with an equal eye all the children of men, and who will be avenged on the oppressor however high may be his pretensions to religion.

In feeling ourselves constrained to revive and give forth this our earnest testimony and remonstrance against slavery, we are far from a disposition to do the slaveholder any wrong; but, on the contrary, it is with the sincerest desire to promote both his temporal and eternal welfare, which we conceive to be most intimately dependent upon his relinquishment of so unrighteous a system. Oh that the conviction might strike deep into his heart that he is "verily guilty concerning his brother" and under a sense of duty and long-deferred justice that he might be induced to give freedom to the injured bondman — to "loose the bands of wickedness, undo the heavy burdens, break every yoke, and let the oppressed go free"! If this should happily be done in a spirit of true and unfeigned repentance towards God, then might we not hope that the now-impending judgment of the Most High over this land might even yet be turned away. —

The said essay being satisfactory to this meeting, the clerk is directed to sign it on our behalf, and Edmund Peny, Israel Buffington and William Hill are appointed to have the care of printing and distributing 5000 copies of the same, and they are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of this Yearly Meeting for the expense thereof.

Having closed the business for this time, we conclude, purposing to meet again in Newport at the 3d hour on seventh day afternoon, the 12th of Sixth month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

At a meeting for Sufferings, held at Newport, 6 month, 12th. 1844. Present 28 members.

The Committee to which was referred the communication from the Standing Committee of Friends in Ireland, report as follows: which is satisfactory to this meeting, and the Clerk is directed to record the communication above refered to.

To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting.

The extract from the minute of the Yearly Meeting of Dublin, as quoted by the Committee, says "Believing the body issuing this Epistle has not been constituted in accordance with the good order of our Society, it could not be recognized as New England Yearly Meeting."

We cannot but believe that the opinion expressed in the above extract arises from a misapprehension of the facts relative to the New England separation, in regard either to the defection of the larger body here, or as to the manner in which they went out from among us; and this misapprehension we suppose may have been strengthened by the smallness of the number of those who have stood amidst so great trial and conflict for the ancient testimonies of our religious Society.

The Yearly Meeting of Dublin surely could not intend to be understood as placing the mere outward order, or the letter of the Discipline,

however good in itself it is, above the fundamental ground work of the Society, namely, the religious principles upon which it rests, and which in the language of Robert Barclay is "the bond by which we became cemented into one body and fellowship, and distinguished from others". Nor could they, as we apprehend, wish to sanction, or give countenance to a body, as of the Society of Friends, which has obviously departed from our ancient faith — But the New England separatists have done this, and not only so, but they are separatists in the outward order also; some of the principal leaders among them having made the first open breach in a regularly constituted Monthly Meeting for Discipline, while it was in the proper exercise of its functions as such, by withdrawing themselves from said meeting; and in an irregular and disorderly manner establishing a separate meeting which their party afterwards recognized and sustained in the superior meetings, thus carrying the separation forward through the Quarterly and Yearly Meetings

We cannot but express the hope that our Friends in Ireland will either by means of the information now being diffused by our Meeting for Sufferings, or otherwise, become correctly informed in regard to the great case they have thus in our view prematurely decided

The Committee propose that the communication received from them should be recorded on our minutes

Francis Taber (on behalf of
Prince Gardiner (the Comittee

Newport 6 month 12. 1847.

Communication from the Standing Committee of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland.

At a meeting of the standing Committee of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland, held in Dublin on the 5th of Fifth month 1846.

A communication addressed to this Committee was produced to it prior to our late Yearly Meeting, which it was agreed should not then be noticed on its minutes - it purports to be an Epistle from the meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Newport, on the 8th of Eighth month last, and is signed by Isaac F. Read, as clerk thereof. It appears that this body is a part of it in connexion with that designated itself New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, from which an Epistle was tendered to our late Yearly Meeting, but not accepted by it, on the ground assigned in the minute, namely, that "believing the body issuing this Epistle has not been constituted in accordance with the good order of our Society, it could not be recognized thereby as New England Yearly Meeting." In conformity to this conclusion, we feel ourselves bound to decline reading or accepting the above mentioned Epistle, & the Clerk is accordingly directed to return it with a copy of this minute.

(Copy)

Joseph Bewley Clerk

The Committee appointed on account of the want of correct information in various parts respecting the late separation, report — that they have continued to pay such attention to the subject as occasion seemed to require, which is satisfactory to this meeting.

The Committee appointed to receive and forward subscriptions to the Central Committee of Friends in Dublin, for the relief of the sufferers by famine in Ireland made the following report, which is acceptable to us.

To the Meeting for Sufferings.

The undersigned members of the Committee appointed in the second month last, to receive subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers from the famine in Ireland and forward the same to the "Central Committee of Friends in Dublin", report that the amount of said subscriptions obtained by the Committee, and placed in our hands was Eleven hundred and twenty Dollars, with which we caused to be purchased in the fourth month, 200 Bushels of black eyed peas, and 175 barrels kiln dried corn meal which were shipped from Philadelphia by the Bark "John Welsh" to Londonderry, to the order of Richard Allen, the first named member of the Dublin Central Committee — It was found that relief could be afforded to a much greater extent, by sending food rather than money, inasmuch as the British Government had agreed to

pay the freight on all donations, forwarded in food to Ireland from this country. That necessary measures were taken to secure the payment of the freight by them on our consignment, and it was also insured against loss by sea.

Newport 6 month. 12. 1847. Thillcain Hill
Charles Perry.

The Clerk is directed to lay our records before the Yearly Meeting.

Our business being accomplished at this time, we have adjourned to meet at the rise of the Yearly Meeting.

George F. Read, Clerk

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 6 month 15th 1847. Present 35 members.

We have received the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting viz.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, by adjournments from the 13th of the 6th month to the 18th of the same, inclusive, 1847.

Fourth day of the week - 16th of the month. The committee appointed at our sitting this morning to propose the names of suitable Friends to constitute a meeting for Sufferings produced the following, which being approved by this meeting, they are accordingly appointed to the service for the year ensuing, or until another appointment - viz - Francis Tabor, Hezekiah Swain, John Wilbur, Hezekiah Barnard, Seth Davis, Job Eddy, Jonathan Nichols, Henry Gould, Prince Gardiner, Oliver Chace, Nathan Page, George C. Kenyon, Thomas B. Gould, John Mitchell, Thomas Wilbur, Joseph Meader, Jeremiah Read, William B. Oliver, Charles Perry, John J. Kenyon, William Hull, Harvey Chase, Benjamin Sutton, Thomas K. Wilbur, Ethan Foster, Amos C. Wilbur, Othniel Foster, James Austin, Israel Buffington, Palmer Chase, George W. Eddy, Nathan Buffington, Thomas P. Nichols, Thomas Foster, Obadiah Gaskill, Peleg Mitchell, Pelatiah Hussey, Francis Tabor, Valentine Meader, James D. Peckham, Samuel B. Chace, Timothy Barney, Samuel Sheffield and Christopher C. Hussey.

extracted from the minutes of said meeting

Thomas B. Gould, Clerk

We have appointed George F. Read, to serve this meeting, as Clerk for the ensuing year.

We have received the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting—viz—

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island by adjournments from the 13th of the 6th month to the 18th of the same, inclusive, 1847—

Fourth Day of the week— 16th of the month.

The Committee appointed at our first sitting to consider the propriety of addressing an Epistle to those, wherever scattered, who are sincerely concerned and engaged for the maintenance of our ancient Principles and Testimonies produced the following essay, which having been deliberately read, and solidly considered both by this, and the Womens meeting, was fully united with, and adopted by each; and the Clerks were respectively directed to sign the same on behalf of this meeting. The essay is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings for publication;— which is requested to have such number of copies, as it may deem expedient, not exceeding Ten Thousand, and defray the expense by a draft on the Treasurer of this meeting.

From the minutes of the meeting aforesaid,
Thomas B. Gould, Clerk.

Whereupon we appoint Charles Perry, Christy Davis,

Thomas B. Gould, William Hill, Ethan Foster, Valentine Meader and Thomas Wilbur, to have the care of printing and distributing ten thousand copies of said Epistle, and report the expense thereof to a future meeting.

The Committee appointed to give information with regard to the causes which have produced the separation, which has lately occurred, informs that in attending to the duties of their appointment, they have incurred an expense of one hundred and eleven Dollars and fourteen cents, for the payment of which sum, they are directed to call upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting.

We have concluded to meet at the 3d hour of the day preceding that of holding the Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island on the 8th month at Newport; in the 11th month at Fall River; in the 2d month at North Providence; and on the day preceding that of holding Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, at New Bedford, in the 4th month, at the same hour.

Our business being accomplished at this time, we conclude, purposing to meet again at Newport, at the usual time, in the 8th month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

At a meeting for Sufferings, held at Newport, 8th. month 4th. 1847. Present 20 members.

The Committee appointed to have the care of printing and distributing the epistle, issued by our last Yearly Meeting inform that they have attended to the service which assigned to them; and that the expense incurred by them, while engaged therein, amounts to One hundred and seventy two Dollars. One thousand copies of the Epistle have been sent to England, and attention is being paid to the distributing the remainder of them on this continent.

. . . . . .

Information having been received by us at a former meeting, that our beloved Friend, Sarah Tucker, deceased, had left some valuable and instructive writings, a few Friends were named without minute to examine them; They now report that they have examined them, and deem them worthy of publication; — we therefore appoint John Wilbur, Ich Eddy, Francis Taber, Charles Perry, Ethan Foster, Thomas B. Gould, Thomas P. Nichols, Harvey Chace, George M. Eddy, Israel Buffington and James D. Peckham to make a further examination & revision of said writings, and prepare them to be printed, if way may open for it, and report to a future meeting.

The business being accomplished at this time, we conclude purposing to meet again at Fall River, at the usual time in the eleventh month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

[illegible] Meeting [illegible]
[illegible] 3rd mo 3 1847

The Clerk being absent Harvey Chace
is appointed Clerk for the day

Present 28 Members

On motion being seconded it was concluded to adjourn to meet at this House at half past 6 o'clock this evening

Evening Friends met pursuant to adjournment

Present 28 Members

The committee to whom the Manuscript writings of our late Beloved Friend Sarah Buffum were referred for examination & revision produced them and the reading was proceeded in during part of this sitting to the satisfaction of Friends, & appearing necessary to adjourn further consideration & the proper arrangement of them before going to the press is also to Nantucket Meeting it is concluded to continue them & also the case of the same committee was re-elected to attend to the same service

Adjourned to meet at 9 o'th Month in the usual time in Second Month next

Harvey Chace Clerk for Day

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at North Providence 2d Month 2d 1848.

Present 19 members.

The Clerk not being present, Charles Peny is appointed clerk for this time.

The Committee having charge of the writings of our late beloved friend Sarah Tucker report that they have paid further attention thereto, and have caused them to be transcribed as proposed at our last meeting.

The reading of those writings was further proceeded in for some time, after which it was concluded to adjourn to meet again at this place to-morrow evening at 6 Oclock.

Second month 3d Met pursuant to adjournment.

Present 12 members

The reading of the manuscripts of our friend Sarah Tucker was continued through this sitting, and not being concluded, their further consideration is postponed until our next meeting to be held in New Bedford in the fourth month next.

Charles Peny Clerk for this time

At a meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford, 4 mo. 5th. 1848.

Present 22 members

The reading of the manuscripts of our late beloved friends Sarah Tucker was continued for some time, after which it was concluded to adjourn to meet again at this place, to-morrow evening, at 7 o'clock

Fourth month 6th. Met pursuant to adjournment

Present 16 members.

Memorials from Dartmouth Monthly Meeting and approved by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting concerning our late beloved Friends James Tucker and Sarah Tucker, have been read in this meeting to our edification & comfort; and we appoint John Milton, Thomas B. Gould, Peleg Mitchell, George Mc. Eddy, Lyon F. Read & Francis Taber to consider and revise the same, if necessary, and present them to a future sitting.

We have concluded to adjourn to meet again at this place, tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock

4month, 7th. Met pursuant to adjournment

Present 16 members.

The reading of the writings of our late beloved friend Sarah Tucker which has been continued to our comfort and satisfaction during several meetings, has been concluded at this time; — and information having been received by us, that Samuel Tucker & Pope Tucker, children of the deceased, are willing to publish them at their own expense, they are left at liberty to do so; and the Committee now having charge of the writings, are requested to exercise the necessary care in printing the same.

The Committee appointed at a previous sitting, to consider & revise if necessary, the memorial concerning our late beloved friend, James Tucker & Sarah Tucker, presented them at this time, which having been read, they are approved by this meeting, and the Clerk is directed to forward them to the Yearly Meeting.
And in regard to what testimonies would result from their being published in connexion with the Journal of Sarah Tucker, it is the recommendation of this meeting, that they should be so printed.

We appoint Francis Fabens, Isaac Button, George M. Edds, & Tiana K. Felton to make the necessary provision for our approaching Yearly Meeting, in which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is requested to lend its aid, as heretofore.

The Committee is authorised to draw on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer, for the expenses thereof.

The Clerk is requested to furnish Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, with a copy of this minute.

Having closed the business for this time, we conclude, previous to meet again, at Newport, at the 3d hour, on seventh day afternoon, the tenth of 6th month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 6 mo. 10. 1848. Present 27 members.

The Committee having charge of the writings of our late beloved Friend, Sarah Tucker informs that they are in preparation, and will, probably, be published in a few weeks.

There being no other business which appears to claim our attention at this time, we have directed the Clerk to lay the records of this meeting before the Yearly Meeting; and have concluded to adjourn to meet again at the rise of the Yearly Meeting.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

George F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at the rise of the Yearly Meeting, at Newport 6mo 15. 1848. Present 39 Members

The Clerk declared the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting, viz

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, by adjournments from the eleventh to the fifteenth of the 6th month inclusive. 1848

The Committee appointed yesterday afternoon to propose the names of suitable Friends to compose a meeting for Sufferings reported the following viz —
Francis Taber, Hezekiah Swain, John Milton, Hezekiah Barnard, Seth Davis, Job Eddy, Jonathan Nichols, Henry Gould, Prince Gardner, Oliver Chace, Nathan Page, John Mitchell, Thomas Milton, Thomas B. Gould, Joseph Meader, William Hill, Benjamin Tucker, Harvey Chace, Ethniel Foster, Palmer Chace, Nathan Buffington, Peleg Mitchell, Benjamin Gardner, William Slade, George M. Eddy, George C. Kenyon, George F. Read, John J. Kenyon, William B. Cline, Thomas K. Milton, Charles Perry, Ethan Foster, Amos C. Milton, James Austin, Israel Buffington, Thomas Foster, Timothy Barnes, Samuel B Chace James D. Peckham, Francis Taber jr, Peletiah Hussey, Valentine Meader, Samuel Sheffield, Christopher C. Hussey, and Thomas P. Nichols, which having been approved by this meeting, those Friends are accordingly appointed to constitute a meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, or until another appointment; and they are desired to attend to such

subjects affecting the welfare of our religious Society, as may properly claim their attention, according to the original constitution of that meeting.

Extracted from the minutes of said meeting, Thos. B. Gould, Clerk

We have appointed George H. Read, to serve this Meeting, as Clerk, for one year.

We have concluded to meet at the same time and places, as last year; viz. at the 3d hour of the day preceding that of holding the Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island in the 8th month, at Newport; in the eleventh month, at Fall River; in the second month, at North Providence; and on the day preceding that of holding Sandwich Quarterly Meeting at New Bedford, in the 4th month, at the same hour.

No further business presenting itself at this time, we have adjourned, to meet again at Newport, at the third hour of the day preceding the holding of the Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island, in the 8th month next

Signed on behalf of the Meeting
George H. Read, Clerk

At a meeting for sufferings held at New-
Port 8th Month 3rd 1848

Present 16 members

The clerk being absent Geo M Eddy was
appointed Clerk for the time

One of the committee appointed to have
charge of the printing and publishing the
writings of our beloved friend Sarah Tucker
And the testimonies of Dartmouth Monthly
Meeting in relation to James and Sarah Tucker
deceased reports that the necessary care has
been taken and 500 copies have been published

After devoting a considerable time to the consider-
ation of other subjects affecting the welfare of Society
we conclude. Purposing to meet again
at Fall River on fourth day afternoon preceding
the 2dly. mtg. at 3 O'clock in the 11th Month
next

George M. Eddy Clerk
for this time

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 1st of Eleventh month 1848.

Present Twenty five members.

The Clerk being absent Thomas B. Gould is appointed clerk for this time.

Having been engaged for some time in the reading of a printed document which has been laid before us for consideration we think best to adjourn to the Eighth hour tomorrow morning.

Fifth day morning the 2nd of 11th month met pursuant to adjournment.

Present Twenty three members.

"An Appeal for the Ancient Doctrines of the Religious Society of Friends" published by direction of the Yearly Meeting held in Philadelphia in the Fourth month of last year, having been introduced at our previous sitting and deliberately read in this meeting; a covering of much solemnity has been spread over us, under which full unity has been felt and expressed with the concern of that Yearly Meeting, and with the Document which it has issued.

And notwithstanding the Yearly Meeting which we represent, under a similar concern issued in the year 1845, a public "Declaration and Testimony" against the unsound Doctrines promulgated by the writings of the principal author referred to in the "Appeal" - making

numerous quotations therefrom, and contrasting them with copious extracts from the approved writings of our early Friends; — Yet such are the dangers and trials with which we are still surrounded, and so great is the unsettlement produced in divers places by the prevalence of a Spirit of unbelief in some of our fundamental principles and most precious testimonies; that under a renewed engagement for the preservation of our own members in that Faith which was once delivered to the Saints, we believe it to be right for us, and our duty at this time, again to manifest our continued adherance to First Principles, and our disunity with all attempts to modify and change them, by thus recording our unity with the exercise and concern of our brethren of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in making this Appeal for our Ancient Doctrines; which we affectionately recommend to the serious perusal of all our members: earnestly desiring that the full and direct manner in which they have been enabled to refute the unsound principles and doctrines inculcated by the passages selected from the Author's referred to *, and the clear exposition of our ancient and true Principles contained in this Appeal on their behalf, may have the effect designed of building us up in the most Holy Faith; counteracting the Erroneous tendencies of the present day, and guarding the minds of Friends against receiving & adopting new forms of expression and modified views of Doctrine (although they may be primarily held by persons in membership with us) which

* Joseph John Gurney and Edward Hall.

are not in accordance with the Truth, and a full acknowledgment of it, as it has always been held by the faithful and consistent members of our Religious Society. —

No further business being presented we conclude purposing to meet again at the specified time in the second month next at North Providence.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk
for this time.

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at North Providence 1mo 31. 1849. Present 16 members.

This meeting having been at this time, introduced into an exercise & concern on account of the difficulties which appear to lie in the way of many Friends, to prevent them from attending our Yearly Meeting — and desiring that the way be made easy for all Friends to unite with us on those interesting occasions, we appoint Job Eddy, John Wilbur, Israel Buffington, Samuel B. Chase, Francis Taber jr. Harvey Chase, Ethan Foster Charles Perry, George F. Read & Palmer Chase to take the subject, and the circumstances attending it into their serious consideration and report to our next meeting what measures in their judgement are necessary to effect the object in view

No further business claiming our attention we conclude, purposing to meet again at New Bedford, at the appointed time in the 4th month next

Signed on behalf of the meeting
George F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at New Bedford 4 mo. 4. 1849. Present 18 members.

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to take into consideration the subject of making the way more easy for Friends to attend the Yearly Meeting made the following report viz.

To the Meeting for Sufferings

The Committee appointed in the 2d month last to take into consideration the subject of making the way more easy for Friends to attend our Yearly Meetings in future propose — that the Committee that is usually appointed to make the necessary provision for the Yearly Meeting be authorized to see that no Friend shall be embarassed on account of the expenses incident on the attendance thereof.

on behalf of the Committee
New Bedford 4 mo 4. 1849. Calvin Chase

which is accepted.

The appoint Israel Buffington, Benjamin Gardner Benjamin Tucker, Joel Eddy, William Hill, James D. Peckham, George H. Reed, Francis Baker jr & John Milton to make the necessary provision for the approaching Yearly Meeting in which Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore

The Committee is authorized to draw on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for the expenses thereof

The Clerk is requested to furnish Rhode Island Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute.

Our friend John Thelwall presented at this time for our consideration a letter written by him to a professed Minister of the Episcopal denomination, upon the subject of gospel ministry, which having been read by us, we appoint Seth Davis, Peleg Mitchell, Francis Taber, Job Eddy, Wm Hill, Geo. F. Read and Israel Buffington to make a further examination of the same, and report their judgement thereon, to our next meeting.

Our business being accomplished, we conclude, purposing to meet again at Newport, at the 3 hour of Seventh day afternoon, the of the 6th month next

Geo. F. Read
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Newport 6th Month 9th 1826. — Present 32 Members.

The Clerk being absent, Valentine Headen was appointed Clerk for the time.

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to make a further examination of the letter on the subject of Social Ministry, written to a professed Minister of the Episcopal denomination by our friend John Wilbur, and by him presented to this Meeting for consideration, report, that they have made such further examination, and see no reason why he should not be left at liberty to publish the same, which being satisfactory to this meeting is accepted. —

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this Meeting before our approaching Yearly Meeting.

Having no further business at this time it is concluded to adjourn to meet again at the rise of the Yearly Meeting.

Valentine Headen
Clerk for the time.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at the close of the Yearly Meeting – Newport 15th of Sixth Month 1849. Present 35 members. –

The time for which the clerk of this meeting was appointed having expired – and the name of Francis Taber Junr being proposed for that service – the proposition was united with, and he is accordingly appointed Clerk of this meeting for the ensuing year. –

We have received at this time the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting. Viz.

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island by adjournments from the 10th of the Sixth month to the 15th of the same inclusive 1849.

Fifth day of the week and 14th of the month. – The committee appointed at a former sitting to propose the names of Friends to compose a Meeting for Sufferings – reported the following, Viz. Francis Taber, John Wilbur, Seth Davis, Job Eddy, Henry Gould, Prince Gardner, Oliver Chace, Nathan Page, John Mitchell, Thomas Wilbur, Thomas B. Gould, Joseph Meader, William Hill, Benjamin Tucker, Harvey Chace, Othniel Foster, Palmer Chace, Nathan Buffinton, Peleg Mitchell, Benjamin Gardner, William Slade, George M. Eddy, George C. Kenyon, George F. Read, John T. Kenyon, William B. Oliver, Thomas K. Wilbur, Charles Perry, Ethan Foster, Amos C. Wilbur, James Austin, Israel Buffinton, Thomas Foster, Timothy Varney, Samuel B. Chace, James D. Peck-
=ham

Peckham, Francis Taber Junr Pelatiah Hussey, Valentine Meader, Samuel Shuffield, Christopher C. Hussey and Thomas P. Nichols:- which were approved by this meeting; and the Friends are accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, or until another appointment.

Extracted from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting by

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk. this year

It is concluded that our stated meetings be held at the same times and places as last year, viz. at the third hour of the day preceding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held in the Eighth month at Newport - in the Eleventh Month at Fall River - and in the Second month at North Providence; and at the same hour of the day preceding that on which Sandwich Quarterly Meeting is held, in the Fourth month, at New Bedford

No other business being presented at this time the meeting adjourned to the specified time in the Eighth month next at Newport.

Francis Taber Jr
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at ... the 1st of 8th Month 1849.

Present 21 Members.

We have received and read at this time the following minute of our last Yearly Meeting viz.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for ... held on Rhode Island by adjournments from the 10th of the 6th Month to the 15th of the same inclusive. 1849.

The Committee to whom was referred for further consideration the Document prepared by the Meeting for Sufferings of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in relation to the facts and causes of the Division which has taken place within our limits, and which was adopted by a Minute of that Yearly Meeting, and directed to be laid before us for our solid consideration both of which was received and read at our first sitting, reported at this time. And upon solid deliberation, it appears to us that our Friends of that Yearly Meeting have been enabled to enter into an impartial examination of the momentous subject, to obtain a correct understanding of the transactions narrated, and favoured to come to a right conclusion respecting the important principles which are involved therein.

The subject having been thus weightily moved and left with us for our serious Consideration, we have been strengthened into a careful re-examination of the part which we have felt called upon to act. And while we are sensible of much weakness we can with reverence and thankfulness acknowledge the continued evidence of Divine regard. And as we humbly wait under the overshadowing influence of heavenly love, our spirits have been brought into near unity with the concern

Expressed by our dear Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; That all those who have occasioned uneasiness, or been instrumental in bringing our Religious Society into the dangers and difficulties in which it has been unhappily involved, by the transactions alluded to in their Epistle, as having gone to condemn many who have been standing for the Ancient Faith of Friends may be brought to see their error and to a right sense of the support which we continue to believe has been and still is given to unsound Doctrines and wrong practices in violation of the Discipline - to the subversion of the peace and order of our Religious Society, and of the acknowledged rights of its Members. And as in the course of the examination which we have been led into respecting the manner of our proceedings, we have not seen cause either to forsake the Ground, or to retrace the steps which we have taken; neither have we been able to see in what other way we could have sustained the Yearly Meeting in conformity with the Discipline, and upon its original foundation. And we believe it to be right for us, and our duty at this time, again to express the earnest and sincere desire which we continue deeply to feel, that all who have erred from the Faith, and given their support to the unsound Doctrines which we have been engaged to testify against, or who have been concerned in the oppressive measures which resulted in their seperation from us, may be so humbled under the Divine Hand, as to experience, individually, unfeigned repentance unto a condemnation of their error, and a full acknowledgment of the Truth; and so come to witness an establishment upon the true foundation and a right preparation to walk with us in sweetness of fellowship and

communion. Having also been engaged at this time in the consideration of "an Epistle" for the encouragement of our Religious Society, issued by the Yearly Meeting in the year eighteen hundred and forty seven. which was unanimously approved and adopted by that Meeting; believing it to have been its origin in the truth, and under a tender concern for the faithful maintenance of our Principles, to that which has repeatedly led us, both as individuals and as a body, to bear testimony against the unsound sentiments and Doctrines promulgated by one of the authors alluded to in the Epistle; and our Meeting for Sufferings having heretofore recommended it to the serious perusal of all our Members, we unite therewith; and we especially recommend it to the careful perusal of all who have been drawn aside by the dissemination of those views; earnestly desiring that the peaceable manner in which they have been fully refuted, may have the effect to restore such to that precious unity which once characterised us, and that they may be prepared, as the heart of one man, for a full acknowledgment and faithful support of the principles set forth in that Epistle, firmly believing them to be in strict accordance with the Truth as it is in Jesus, and as it has always been held by our Religious Society. And it is the conclusion of this Meeting to refer the Document with the Minute received from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting to the Meeting for Sufferings to be published for the information of our Members, at such time and in such manner as that Meeting may direct, and they are authorized to append thereto a copy of this Minute.

Thomas B Gould

Extracted from the Minutes. Clerk to the Meeting this year

And the clerk of that meeting having also laid before us the document therein referred to. after a time of deliberation it is concluded to have five thousand Copies printed.

William Hill. Isral Buffington. Amos C Wilbour. Harvey Chace. John Wilbour. Job Eddy. Thomas B Gould. Nathan Buffington and Prince Gardner are appointed to superintend the press. and attend to the distribution of the same. they are also requested to report to this Meeting when accomplished. and authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for expenses incurred by its publication.

Having no further business at this time it is concluded to adjourn to Meet in the Eleventh Month Next at Fall River

Francis Taber Jr.
Clerk

A Meeting of Ministers held at Salem 31st of 10th mo 1849
Present 19 Members.

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting, to superintend the publication, and distribution of the Document relating to the facts and Causes of the Seperation in New-England Yearly Meeting Made a Verbal report at this time. That they had attended to the Subject and had five thousand Copies printed. Most of which have been distributed.

The Subject brought before us for Consideration at this time not being disposed of. the conclude to adjourn to Meet to Morrow Morning Nine O.C

Morning 11 mo 1st Friends met pursuant to adjournment.
Present 19 Members.

The Subject introduced to our last Meeting being weightily considered at this time was satisfactorily accomplished.

No further business being presented at this time. We conclude purposing to Meet at Smithfield Providence at 3. O.C. P.M. on fourth day preceding Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in the second month next.

Francis Tabor Jr
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings
held at South Providence 2d mo. 6th 1850

Present 15 Members.

The committee appointed in eighth month last, to have charge of the publication of the document in relation to the facts and causes of the division in New England Yearly Meeting, report, that they have completed the object of their appointment. That the expence of the publication was two hundred & fifteen 18/100 dollars.

And have received from individuals for copies sold seventy seven dollars. leaving a balance against the publication of one hundred thirty eight 18/100 dollars.

The business brought before us, being accomplished, we conclude, unless some thing in Providence at the usual time on fourth day, preceding Sandwich Quarterly Meeting in the fourth month next.

Francis Taber Jr.
Clerk.

1. 1. Meeting for Sufferings
held at New Bedford 3d of 4th mo 1851

Present in Boston

We appoint our Friends Josiah Bullock
Joel Eddy, Benjamin Taber, Peter Boyer & Gardner
Wilson Taft and Francis Shaw to make
the necessary provision for the approaching Yearly
Meeting and they are requested to See that the Friends
not embarrassed on account of the expenses on that occasion
Also Quarterly Meeting in which Rhode Island Monthly
Meeting is invested to hold its annual Sessions
The Committee is authorized to draw
on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for
the expenses thereof

The Clerk is authorized to furnish Rhode
Island Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute

The business brought before us at
this time being accomplished. We concluded to meet
to meet at Newport on Seventh day at the usual
time preceding that on which the Yearly Meeting
is held in the sixth Month next

Francis Taber Jr
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held
at New York 15th of 6th Month 1850

Present 28 Members

Having attended to some weighty considerations
brought before us at this time.

The Clerk is directed
to lay the minutes of this Meeting before the
approaching Yearly Meeting.

No further business appearing.
to claim the attention of the Meeting at this time
it adjourns to meet again at the time of the Yearly
Meeting.

Samuel Parker
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at [illegible] the 19th of 6th Mo. 1850

Present 22 Members

The time for which the Clerk of this Meeting was appointed having expired — Benjamin Hallowell is appointed to act as Clerk for the year ensuing.

We have received at this time the following extract from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting viz

At our Yearly Meeting of Ministers & Elders held at Philadelphia by adjournments from the 16th of the 6th Month to the 19th of the same inclusive 1850.

[illegible] the Meeting for Sufferings [illegible] Committee appointed [illegible] bringing in a list of the names of Friends suitable to compose a Meeting for Sufferings, reported the following viz

[illegible] Daniel Gardner, George [illegible] William Hall, Francis Talbot, Thomas [illegible] William — Israel Griffith, [illegible] [illegible] Charles Perry, [illegible] John H. Dillwyn, Robert Cox, Benjamin Gardner, Joel Cadbury — John S. Morgan, [illegible] Thomas Hillborn, Daniel Hoag, [illegible] Samuel Sutton, Wm B. Wood — [illegible] Wm Foster, Wm Hall, [illegible] Nathan Burgess, and [illegible] which being approved, the [illegible] named was appointed to constitute a —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Port Rhode Island, first of Seventh Month 1830

Present 13 Members

The Subject of Slavery, and other subjects, affecting the welfare of Society having been feelingly introduced to this Meeting - some Negotiation and deliberation considered at this time.

No further business appearing to claim our attention. We Conclude purposing to meet at Fall River at 3 OC. on 4th day succeeding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held in the Eleventh Month Next.

Francis Taber Jr.
Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 6th of Eleventh Month 1850

Present 17 Members

A Subject affecting the welfare of Society was introduced to this Meeting and after a time of deliberation thereon was referred to our Friends Peleg Mitchell. Harvey Chace Wm H Hill. Job Eddy, George B Eddy and Israel Buffington to take the same into consideration and report thereon to a future Setting of this Meeting.

Adjourned to the Seventh 1/2 past Eight A.M.

Morning Friends Met near the time adjourned to

Present Eighteen Members

The committee appointed at a previous Setting of this Meeting produced the following report viz

To the Meeting for Sufferings

Agreeable with our appointment we have taken into deliberate consideration the Subject submitted to us. and are united in suggesting that the Meeting for Sufferings go into the appointment of a committee to prepare in accordance with the exercise of the Meeting if way should open for it an affectionate address to those who have Separated from us and adopted or sanctioned the unsound doctrines which have been promulgated in the Society, and if prepared, lay it before this Meeting at its

next Setting.

On behalf of the committee

Peleg Mitchell.

Which was united with by this meeting and our Friends. Peleg Mitchell. John Wilbour Eastman Foster. Thomas B Gould. Wm Hill. Israel Buffington. Harvey Chace. Paletiah Haggey. Thomas K Wilbour and George B Eddy are appointed a committee to prepare an address for us to Should open for it to those who have adopted and Sanctioned Unsound doctrines not in accordance with those of the Society of Friends and to present the same to our next Meeting.

The business brought before us being accomplished the concluded purposing to meet at North Providence on fourth day proceeding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held in the second month next

Francis Wilbour Jr.

Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at North Providence 5th of Second Month 1851

Present Salem Members

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting to prepare if way should open to it an address to those who have sanctioned the recent introduction of unsound sentiments, within our borders, produced the following Essay.

An Earnest Expostulation.

with those professed Members of the Society of Friends in New England, who have adopted or become responsible for the unsound sentiments promulgated by the late Joseph John Gurney.

It is well known by all who are acquainted with the history of our Religious Society, that its distinguishing views and principles were in a very remarkable, beautiful and clear way set forth and defended by our First Friends. The great opposition and persecution which they met, and the gradual decay of some in prominent standing among them, so far from inducing them to waver, did but increase their zeal and boldness for those precious truths and testimonies which they believe they were raised up of the Lord to revive and hold forth to the World as the true characteristics of primitive Christianity. With them there was no compromise or equivocation, but with full confidence they gave forth a true warning

the bible within them to all honest inquirers. and also to their enemies and persecutors. While their sincerity and godly zeal were thus evinced by a candid and unhesitating confession of their faith without regard to the consequences to themselves, at the same time they condemned, denied and faithfully testified against all false doctrines, as did the Prophets, Christ himself, and his Apostles, for the very essential purpose of clearing the truth from error and admonishing, in order that the Lords people might not be beguiled thereby. and especially was this the case with regard to errors proceeding from those professing the truth, but who had fallen away therefrom. They faithfully and without delay, cleared themselves from all such, so that none could justly charge them with the inconsistency of having fellowship with those who departed from the faith.

It is believed that false doctrines were never more prevalent in the World than at the present time, nor a greater departure from the life and power of true religion: certainly never among those professing to be friends, so great as has been witnessed during the last twenty five years. Can it be that there is less necessity now for guarding against innovation upon the Truth, than when the primitive Friends endured so much for it. No, it matters not at what time, nor from what source the error comes, it should be faithfully and uncompromisingly met and the truth vindicated before the World.

Those whom the are now addressing
thus, we think, with great propriety to divide
into two classes: first, those who have
actively favoured the doctrines of Joseph
John Gurney, and have openly defended
and exposed the authors of them, still claim-
-ing to be in unity with our early and faith-
-ful predecessors in the Truth: and secondly,
such as have been in great measure brought
into the position they now occupy: through
an association and fellowship with those
just named - having no testimony to bear
against the doctrines alluded to, often
treating the idea that they have nothing to do
with them.

Now, Friends, whether identified
with the one or the other of these classes, we
feel constrained to remind you of the wide
contrast between the course you are pursuing,
and that of our early friends, highly alluded to
in the preceding remarks; and as we trust in
a measure of Christian love and fidelity to
urge upon you the necessity there is that you
should return again to the safe Enclosure
from which you have gone astray.

With an earnest desire for your safety
and well-being, we wish to impress upon you
that the doctrines spread abroad by Joseph
John Gurney are irreconcilably opposed to those
of the early Friends - that where the one comes
in, the other must necessarily go out: This
is clearly evident from the general tenor of his
writings, and is proved beyond contradiction
by those striking evidences which have at different-

-ent times been made of his published sentiments with those of our ancient Standard writers. It is moreover abundantly confirmed by the concurrent testimony of intelligent individuals of other denominations who have given their sentiments upon the subject.

A distinguished writer* of the Presbyterian denomination, in letters addressed to the Society of Friends, used the following language:- "It cannot fail to strike the most superficial reader what a perfect discordance there is on various points between the writings of Mr. Gurney and those of the early Friends; and adds, that "he (Gurney) has already taken several steps out of Quakerism, and those too even larger strides than any that have remain for him to take." The Episcopalians in England, ~~in commenting on their subject~~ also well understood the drift of his writings, and did not hesitate to say that "he was one of them, and ought to come to them." The editor of a religious Magazine† in New England, in commenting on this subject, says, "To our minds the difference between the doctrines of J. J. Gurney and those of the primitive Friends, is as distinctly marked as that between Calvinism and Arminianism."

Now Friends, as in the very nature of things a false faith and a false hope must be removed from the heart of man before the true doctrines can effectually take root therein. So on the other hand, if a man believe in the true Gospel doctrines and come to witness the blessed effects of such a faith the enemy cannot implant his false faith, until

* Dr. Hurdman, Scotland. † Christian Examiner,

he first instead or corrupt his mind; for both cannot at the same time, ~~flourish in the heart of man~~ prevail or abide there. Light and Darkness cannot dwell together, neither can a false faith and a true, at the same time, flourish in the heart of man.

The Manner of the Tempters assault upon Eve, is a clear illustration of the new birth.

He first puts it into her to destroy her faith in the word of the Lord, namely, "that in the day she partook of the forbidden fruit - she should surely die." Succeeding in this, he was then able to induce her to believe, that by eating thereof she should be made wise.

So in the present day, his wiles are equally subtle, and in this attempt to induce the successors of Fox and Barclay to turn back again to the weak and beggarly elements from whence those worthies came forth, at the call of their Divine Master, to a far more purified inward experience of the spirituality of the Christian dispensation, the same policy is apparent.

Joseph John Gurney well knew that he must first undermine our faith in the Apostolic doctrine of immediate revelation, before he could hope to succeed in establishing us in the anti-christ doctrine of the sufficiency of the letter. But how altogether unlike the honest, plain manner of the early friends, did he undertake to accomplish his purpose! How equivocal was his treatment of the ancient doctrines, attempting to cover himself with the garb and profession of Quakerism, whilst he was intent upon subverting and changing the faith of the Society; - sometimes saying

and his views quite pronounced. Now modifying and qualifying them with enough of those peculiar to Friends, to insure their reception, and then, as far as possible, promote the great object. At another time we find him secretly consulting about to influential Friends, whom he might suppose more in the interest with his views, sentiments in regard to the interpretation of scripture, on many vital points wholly adverse to those of Friends; the very points too, in which consists the principal difference between us and other denominations. And when these views of his were made public, he would not disavow them. yet complained of their publication, saying he had intended them for private circulation only!

How clearly was the character of Joseph John Gurney seen and described by Thomas Shillitoe, George and Sarah Stacey Jones, and John Barclay, and known to all discriminating readers of his works. And if you, Friends, will come to an honest inquiry before God, sincerely divesting yourselves of all personal considerations, we are convinced that you can but see things as they are there. Yet as members of a body professing to be Friends, you are indispensably accountable for the fellowship extended by that body with the author of the doctrines in question, and until explicitly disavowed must be justly held responsible themselves. Under present circumstances and in the position you occupy, the want of a declaration against them declined on your part, must and will be deemed as equivalent to the adoption of them. If you were really desirous of

sustaining the ancient doctrines of Friends, without compromise. You would quickly see when any innovations were made by introducing opposite doctrines, and would not only feel it your duty publickly to expose and condemn them; but would readily and willingly do so, although it might be at the expense of loosing for a time your good reputation among Men.

A declaration of sound doctrines, even though it might not be in any degree defective in regard to those points whereon Gurney is unsound, (as that Yearly was, which was put forth by you immediately after the separation in New England,) yet if unaccompanied by a condemnation of the unsound, could not atone for acts such as yours, in support of the wrong; but you could only be recognized as embracing a confused mass of truth and error, giving evidence of the want of that integrity of purpose which alone can form a basis for confidence and trust.

The plea of ignorance as to the nature of the unsound doctrines, and any efforts to keep them from view, or to close your eyes upon them, cannot now avail; for all have had the most ample opportunity for information in regard to them. The concern of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, to awaken Friends to the dangerous tendency of these unsound views, is well known; resulting in the publication by that Yearly Meeting of copious strictures thereon entitled, "An Appeal for the Ancient Doctrines, &c. which publication has been offered to your consideration, and stands approved and corroborated by the testimony of other bodies of Friends.

But if it be so, that You have really embraced and intend to uphold the doctrines of Gurney. We desire to impress upon You the propriety of making an open and honest avowal thereof, and in a candid and plain Manner to state what You do believe concerning them; but if You still decline this, as heretofore, you must continue to stand in the view of all honest men as having departed from our original profession, and as being ashamed or afraid, publicly to acknowledge Your religious sentiments. However sorrowful it is for any to go back from the Spirit to the letter, from the power of godliness to the mere form thereof, - yet it would be but a becoming candor in such openly to confess the change from the ancient to the new doctrines. An opposite course is but hypocrisy - a great abomination in the sight of God. How lamentable the case of those who have imbibed Gurney's doctrines of the letter, and yet pretend to be led by the gift of the Spirit, and to experience its guidance and power; - a pretention which, in the Divine sight cannot be other than a great aggravation of their departure from the true faith. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

But some of Your leading members have said, notwithstanding all the accumulated evidence to the contrary, that the doctrines of J. J. Gurney are nearly, if not entirely, in conformity with the doctrines of Friends," evidently for the purpose of inducing Friends to receive them.

The Hicksites, who commenced these mad-ness and painful innovations of avowing and

spreading unsound doctrines in the Society, some twenty five years ago, also boldly professed and declared that the doctrines of Elias Hicks were in conformity with those of the early Friends; and they continue to the present time to make the same assertions respecting them; and until the separation was effected, they very earnestly plead for Charity, peace and harmony, whilst at the same time they were insinuating their heresies into the minds of Friends, and striving to spread them far and wide. But it was very evident that their great cry for love and unity, was only for the purpose of silencing the objections of honest Friends, until their purpose should be gained, in bringing all, if possible, to the faith of Elias Hicks. And to foreclose all contradiction of his views, or the contrasting of them with the true doctrines of the Society.

Now, Friends, in all earnestness we would ask, whether, in the movements of Joseph J Gurney, and his supporters, precisely such an object has not been plainly to be seen, and sought to be attained through the same means, — extraordinary efforts to silence all objection, and to keep things quiet until his doctrines should become established. And have ye not heard the same earnest exhortations to peace, charity, unity with the body &c., which were made use of by Hicks and his Friends?

Has it not evidently the design of the Enemy of all Good, that those unsound doctrines should be brought into the Society, the errors of which stand in two opposite extremes, each very wide from the true standard, for the purpose of subverting Quakerism altogether; if possible to lead

away, on one side, those who had escaped captivity on the other? Do you not see that although the errors of Hicks and Gurney are departures from our faith in different directions, yet that both are apostate, and that if all should follow after these leaders, the ground of primitive Quakerism would be vacated?

As with the Hicksites, so with those who are identified with this latter heresy; both refuse to compare the doctrines of their leaders with those of our ancient Standard writers, or to acknowledge any distinction between them.

This refusal, and your rejection of the candid investigation and review by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, of your unprecedented proceedings, with respect to those who felt constrained to testify against the unsound doctrines, as well as your entire disregard of the judgment and friendly admonition of the same body, afford the clearest evidence that you do hold to wrong principles, or have at least no controversy with, or testimony against them, when coming in as a flood upon the Society; and that the proceedings alluded to will not bear the light;— proceedings which were both rash and unjust, tending to scatter instead of gathering, to wound instead of healing, and to sustain and defend unsound doctrines, those of other professors instead of our own; and which truth requires should be retracted in all good faith and humility before you can rightfully come into the faith and unity of the true body of Friends.

It is well known that when sincere and devout men, who have acted conscientiously, be accused or suspected of having done wrong, they are ever willing, and even anxious, to have their conduct investigated, knowing that the more right

proceedings are examined, the more consistent they will appear; yet we find you relying for a justification, upon your own authority, assuming that whatever may be the character of your proceedings, none have a right to call them in question. Strange ground for any in this day; and especially for those who wish to be considered Friends; but going to show that the leading ones among you must be conscious of having adopted a course at variance from Friends principles; for which, as it cannot be justified upon the ground of right, they are driven to assume that of authority.

How greatly is it to be lamented, that the present state of things exists within our once peaceful and happy borders! In view of it we can but express our desire, with deep concern, that all who have been leading, or have been led in such a course, could be awakened and lay to heart the jeopardy into which their souls are brought, by an adherence to this sad abuse of our original principles and discipline. Oh! turn, turn, we entreat you in the bowels of Christian love, turn again unto the Lord, for he will have mercy; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Though what we may say should fail to be regarded, will not the faithful concern and travail of the many deeply exercised Friends, who have been burdened on account of these long lamented dangers, suffice to convince the honest and innocent ones of the perils which await them; and operate as a solemn warning even to those who have unadvisedly taken a leading part, and revolted to introduce the errors, in defending

the attacks upon our Christian Principles, and, instead
of willingness on their part readily to receive the
Holy Word from Heaven; and, finally, in the wide-
ning gap of Divine Mercy, become the means of leading
them to examine and renounce all unscriptural doctrines,
so that they may again become followers of an
ancient and despised Principle?

To those who have been unwittingly beguiled
into these great errors, we would say, brethren, as your
adversary will bring a railing accusation against
you, whose breath is in his nostrils, and ultimately
the blessed promises and promises of a Saviour,
left on record in the Holy Scriptures, and still
experienced to be imparted to His faithful followers.
In these may all safely confide, for they are yea
and amen. Then let none attempt to reason them
away, or to confer with flesh and blood, whom daily
is their dearth manifested. No, Friends, it will not
do for us to trifle with Omniscience. It will not
avail us in the day of final account, that our unfaith-
fulness was in accordance with the advice of those
above us in station, and whom we regarded as
better than ourselves. Remember that the Prophet
who disregarded the word of the Lord, and turned
aside at the suggestion of another and an older
Prophet, who even pretended to Divine authority
for his advice, was on that account destroyed. And
thus we may ever expect it will be with those who
attempt to shun responsibility by leaning upon,
or receiving it from others. In matters pertaining the
Station. Above all things, therefore, give heed
to the promptings of truth on your own minds, and
look not to numbers or popularity as a standard
of right; remembering that the faithful followers

of a crucified Lord, have in every age been few. The number of his followers, during his manifestation in the flesh, was very small; and by the high professors of that day they were greatly despised. The humble poor despised and rejected of men, and that he warned his followers would be their condition. Impartial history, from that day to this, affords abundant evidence of the literal fulfillment of this prophecy.

How often is the Christian called upon to give up his reputation among men, and his name to reproach for Christ's sake and the Gospel's, and how multiplied have been the blessings, and great the reward, of those who have obeyed the call. Yet how many have shrunk from it; and thereby made shipwreck of faith, having made many other sacrifices. And how many, from inconsistence in what they have felt to be wrong, have come to the same lamentable end. That a timely retraction and correction of the sad errors into which you have fallen, may avert from you this awful calamity; and that on this the only ground where it can ever be rightly effected a reconciliation may be consummated with those from whom ye have been so unhappily estranged, is our sincere and earnest desire.

Signed, by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at North Providence, on the 5th of 2d Month, 1851

Francis Taber Jr.
Clerk

which having been deliberately and coolly considered was united with and adopted. and it is the conclusion of this meeting to have Ten thousand copies printed.

Whereupon Nicholas Hill Thomas Bloomer Cotton Tobias Charles Perry Israel Buffington Francis Taber Jr. Timothy Chase and Peter Hilborn were appointed to superintend the press. and attend to the distribution thereof. and report to this Meeting when accomplished.

The business brought before us at this time being accomplished we conclude. purposing to meet at New Bedford on fourth day preceding that on which Dartmouth Quarterly Meeting is held in the fourth month next

Francis Taber Jr.
Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport Rhod Island 2d of 4th Month 1851

Present Eleven Members

One of the Committee appointed at our last Meeting to superintend the press and attend to the distribution of the Essay directed to be published by this Meeting, made a verbal report at this time that the required Number had been printed, and a portion of them distributed. The committee are requested to finish the distribution thereof and report to our next Meeting.

We appoint our Friends Benjamine Tucker Job Eddy Israel Buffington William Hill and Palmer Chace to make the necessary provision for the approaching Yearly Meeting and they are requested to see that Friends are not embarrassed on the account of the expense on the occasion thereof, in which Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore.

The committee are authorised to draw on the treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense thereof. The Clerk is directed to furnish Rhode Island Monthly Meeting with a copy of this Minute.

The business brought before us at this time being accomplished. We conclude, purposing to meet at New Port on seventh day at the usual time preceding that on which this Y. Meeting is held in the sixth Mo next.

Francis Tabor Clerk

[illegible] Meeting for Sufferings held
[illegible] 6th month 1851.

[illegible]

The committee appointed at a previous
meeting to superintend the printing and
the distribution of the Essay directed to be
printed, Report that they have made
the distribution, and Paid Isaac Hills Bill
in printing $35.00 Also incidential expenses
$1.25 Total $36.25.

Newport 6th Month 14th 1851.
On Behalf of the Committee
William Hill

Which was accepted, and they are requested to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly
[illegible] for the amount thereof.

The Clerk is directed to lay the records
of this meeting before the approaching Yearly
Meeting.

The Answers to the queries [illegible]
recompleted the Conclude [illegible] purporting to be
[illegible] the minutes of the Yearly Meeting.

Francis Stabler Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at the Close of the Yearly Meeting. Newport 18th. Sixth Month 1851

Present 27 Members.

The time for which the Clerk of this Meeting was appointed having expired Francis Taber is reappointed to that service for the ensuing Year.

We have received at this time the following extracts from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting viz:

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Newport on Rhode Island, by adjournments from the 15th of 6th Month, to the 18th of the same inclusive 1851 [illegible] the day of the week and 18th of the month.

The Committee appointed on 3rd day Morning to bring in a list of the names of suitable Friends to compose a Meeting for Sufferings, have produced the following, viz.

Francis Taber. John Wilbur. Peleg Mitchell. Nathan Wing. Othniel Foster. Thomas B Gould. George F Read. Thomas Wilbur. Palmer Chase. Benjamin Gardner. Job Eddy. William Hill. Benjn Tucker. William Slade. Nathan Buffington. Thomas P Wilbur. John J Runyon. Israel Buffington. Charles Perry. Stephen Swift. Aron Barney. Samuel B Chase. Amos C Wilbur. Harvey Chase. Francis Taber Jr. Geo M. Eddy. William B Oliver. Zebulon Hussey. Esther Foster. Christopher C Hussey.

which are satisfactory, and the Friends therein named, are accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, or until another appointment may be entered into by the Yearly Meeting.

The faithful maintenance of our testimony against Slavery, having been weightily and feelingly brought before the meeting, in connection with the late unrighteous law of Congress, relative to fugitive Slaves, the subject was deliberately considered, and it was concluded to refer it to the Meeting for Sufferings, encouraging them to bestow their attention thereto, as they may see cause for, in order that this important testimony may continue to be faithfully upheld.

Extracted from the Minutes.

Phebe Mitchell
Clerk to the Meeting this Year

It is concluded that our Stated Meetings be held at the same times and places as last year, viz. at the third hour of the day preceding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held in the eighth Month at Newport. Eleventh Month at Fall River, in the second Month at North Providence and at the same hour of the day preceding that on which Sandwich Quarterly Meeting is held in the fourth Month at New Bedford,

Our business being accomplished
we conclude, by proposing to Meet at Newport
the Third Hour of the day preceding that on which
Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held in the
eighth Month next.

Francis Taber Jr.
Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings
held at Newport 6th of 8th Month 1851

Present 13 Members

The Subject of Slavery was introduced
from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting
and after a time of deliberation Hadon
was referred to Our Friends. John Wilbur
Thomas B Gould. Charles Perry. Wm. Hill
Thomas Wilbur. Job Eddy. Israel Buffington
Francis Taber, and Othneial Foster — who
are appointed a committee to consider the
subject and report to our next Meeting

The business introduced to this
Meeting being accomplished for this time
We conclude by proposing to Meet at Fall
River at the usual time in the 11th Month
next.

Francis Taber Jr.
Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Philada 5th 11th mo. 1851.

The Clerk being absent Harvey Chace was appointed Clerk for the day.

Present 17 Members

The committee to whom was referred the consideration of Slavery and the Fugitive Slave Law, report that they have given attention thereto, and further time appearing necessary for the completion of their report it is concluded to adjourn to the Ninth hour to morrow Morning.

Harvey Chace
Clerk for the day

5th day Morning the 6th Friends met pursuant the time adjourned to

Present 14 Members

The committee appointed in the 5th month last on the subject of Slavery produced a Report and after a time of deliberation thereon it was concluded to adjourn to the 7th Hour this Evening.

Evening Friends again met pursuant to adjournment.

Present 14 Members.

The Meeting was mostly held for some time in the serious consideration of the report of the committee on the subject of Slavery and

Fugitive Slave Law. and it was concluded to refer the whole subject for further consideration under their Care. to an adjournment of this Meeting. to be held at New Bedford. at the 3d Hour in the afternoon previous the day on which Sandwich Quarterly Meeting is held in 12th Mo next

Francis Taber Jr
Clerk

. Met agreeable to 3d & 12th Month Friends not hearing the time adjourned to. a Quorum of Members not being present at this time. the adjournment to the ninth Hour to Morrow Morning.

5th day morning the 4th Friends again met.

Present 11 Members

The following report having been received at this time from the committee appointed in the 8th Month last on the Subject of Slavery and the Fugitive Slave Law. was after a time of deliberation thereon accepted. and Peleg Mitchell and George H Eddy are appointed to forward a Copy to Each the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

The clerk is directed to sign the same on behalf of this Meeting

To the Senate and House of Representatives
of the United States in Congress assembled:

The memorial of the representatives
of the Religious Society of Friends in Great Britain
respectfully showeth:

That the painfully absorbing subject of Slavery in especial connection with the recent Fugitive Slave Law, having been referred to us by our last Yearly Meeting which was brought under much concern on account of the passage and operation of that Law, We have felt constrained as we stood under a sense of religious obligation to ask for the repeal of it, because we believe it to be expendingly unjust and oppressive in its character, and opposed to the true interests and safety of our People and Government, which are assuredly incompatible with any system of wrong to our fellow creatures; and because it is condemned both by the dictates of humanity and the principles of the Christian religion, which breathes peace on Earth and Good will to Men of every nation and colour without any exception or distinction.

The Society of Friends have ever regarded the Divine Law as being paramount to all human compacts and legislation whatever, yet it has always inculcated and practised the principle of passive submission to the penalties affixed to a non compliance with such Laws of the land in which its members have been located as could not be obeyed without a violation of the Law of God.

and although they have frequently
availed themselves of the right of petition
and of remonstrance with their rulers,
many, numerous have been the instances
since we were a people of the members
of this society having patiently suffered
the penalties of unrighteous laws, for the
testimony of a good conscience - deeming
the reproach of Christ greater riches,
and the preservation of a conscience void
of offence towards God and man of more
value, than the undisturbed possession
of their worldly goods and the enjoyment
of their liberty. And in this case, while
in accordance with our well known prin-
ciples we utterly disavow and repudiate
all interference of a forcible nature with
the Execution of the Law as being contrary
to the peaceable character of Christianity,
yet as we feel religiously engaged in the
spirit of meekness to maintain our testim-
ony against oppression and to endeavour
to promote the coming of that day when
through the prevalence of the spirit and
power of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour
Jesus Christ operating upon the minds
and changing the hearts of the people every
yoke shall be broken and the oppressed
shall be permitted to go free and to enjoy
that liberty and equality which is the
birthright of all men; we cannot conscie-
nciously comply with the requisitions of a
decree for multiplying the afflictions and
increasing and strengthening the bonds of

those who in a multitude of cases had formerly found their suffering and thraldom so Grievous to be borne

We therefore respectfully but earnestly and sincerely entreat you to repeal the Law of the last Congress respecting fugitive slaves - first and principally because of its injustice towards a long, sorely oppressed and deeply injured people, and secondly in order that we together with other conscientious sufferers may be exonerated from the penalties which it imposes on all such, who in faithfulness to their Divine Master and in the discharge of their obligations to their distressed fellow men feel bound to regulate their conduct even under the heaviest penalties which man can inflict for so doing, by the Divine injunction, all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you do ye even so to them" And by this other command-ment, "thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and thy neighbor as thy self."

We fervently desire that He who hath declared through his servant that it is righteousness which exalteth a nation, but that sin is a reproach to any people, may replenish your hearts with wisdom and enable you to do justice and judgment speedily, that so the blessing of such as are ready to perish may come upon you, and the peace and welfare of our beloved country may be promoted and established upon a permanent basis. for the work of righteousness shall be peace and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in New England held at New Bedford the 3d of 12th Month 1851

The business brought before us at this time being accomplished we conclude postponing to meet at the usual time in the 2d Month next at North Providence.

Francis Taber Jr.
Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at North Providence 4th of 2nd month 1852.

Present Nine members:- which being insufficient to form a Quorum for the transaction of business, it was concluded to ~~adjourn to~~ meet again at New Bedford at the stated time in the 3d month next.

On behalf of the members present
Thomas B. Gould.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 3rd of 3rd mo 1852

Present 10 Members

The Committee appointed in the Select Yearly Meeting last to forward a Copy of the Memorial adopted by that Meeting on the Subject of Slavery and the Fugitive Slave Law to the Senate and House of representatives of the United States. Report: that they have attended to the appointment: That information had been received of its presentation to the House of Representatives and reference to a Committee

The Subject of Making Provision for the approaching Yearly Meeting being taken under consideration at this time. The Aforesaid Friends Benjamin Lucas George Lindley Francis Talbot Benjamin Gardner and Israel Buffington to make the necessary provision for the Yearly Meeting, and that Request be made that Friends are not embarrassed on account of the Expense on the attendance thereof. in which Rhode Island Monthly Meetings are requested to give their aid as heretofore.

The Committee are authorized to attend the Sessions of the Yearly Meeting to write & keep Minutes thereof

The Minute is directed to be forwarded to the Rhode Island Monthly Meeting with a Copy of the Minutes.

Our business being accomplished
at this time. It is ordered that the
Court do stand adjourned at the 3rd hour on the
day succeeding that on which the County
Meeting is held in the sixty months last.

Francis Hebert Jr.
Clerk.

at a Meeting of Friends held at Newport 12th of 6th month 1842

Viewed by Minutes

A Memorial from Dartmouth Monthly Meeting and approved by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, Concerning our late adopted Fugitive Slave Law. Has been read in this Meeting to our Satisfaction and Comfort. After a time of deliberation thereon, was also approved by this Meeting. The Clerk is directed to lay the same before the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed in the 12th month last to forward to the Congress of the United States, a copy of the Memorial adopted by this Meeting on the Subject of Slavery and the Fugitive Slave Law, now further report: That they have received information of its being introduced into said ~~Meeting~~ Congress by the Senate, and some favourable remarks made thereon.

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this Meeting before our approaching Yearly Meeting.

Having no further business at this time it is concluded to adjourn to meet again at the time of the Yearly Meeting.

Francis Taber Jr.
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Newport near the rise of the Yearly Meeting, the 17th of the Sixth month 1852.

Present — Francis Taber, Peleg Mitchell Nathan Page, Thomas B. Gould, George F. Read Thomas K. Wilbur, Benjamin Gardner, Job Eddy William Hill, Benjamin Tucker, Thomas Wilbur Grace Buffinton, Aaron Varney, Francis Taber Jr George M. Eddy, William B. Oliver, Millar Chace, Thomas Foster, James Austin, and George C. Kinyon —— Twenty members.

The time for which the Clerk of this meeting was appointed having expired, and he having requested to be released, our friend Thomas B. Gould was appointed to that service for the ensuing year. —

We have received at this time the following extract from the minutes of our last Yearly Meeting, which has been read and is directed to be recorded. Viz.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England held at Newport on Rhode Island, by adjournments, from the 13th of the Sixth month to the 16th of the same inclusive 1852.

Third day of the week & 15th of the month The committee appointed to lay before us a list of the names of suitable Friends to compose a Meeting for Sufferings have produced the following Viz: Francis Taber, John Wilbur, Peleg Mitchell, Nathan Page, Ethniel Foster, Thomas B. Gould, George F. Read, Thomas K.

Wilbur, Benjamin Gardner, Job Eddy, William Hill, Benjamin Tucker, William Slade, Nathan Buffinton, Thomas Wilbur, John T. Kenyon, Israel Buffinton, Charles Peny, Stephen Swift, Aaron Varney, Samuel B. Chace, Harvey Chace, Francis Taber Junr. George H. Eddy, William B. Oliver, Pelatiah Hussey, Ethan Foster, Christopher C. Hussey, Amos C. Wilbur, Miller Chase, Thomas Foster, James Austin and George C. Kenyon; which are approved by the meeting and they are accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing or until another appointment shall be entered into by the Yearly Meeting.

Extracted from the minutes and signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting.

By Peleg Mitchell Clerk
to the meeting this year..

The subject of the most suitable times and places of holding our stated meetings coming under consideration, it was concluded that they be held the same as last year; viz: at the third hour of the day preceding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held at Newport in the Eighth month – at Fall River in the Eleventh month, and at North Providence in the second month. At the same hour of the day preceding that on which Sandwich Quarterly meeting is held in the Fourth month at New Bedford and at three O' clock in the afternoon of the 7th day on which the Select Yearly meeting commences at Newport.

No other business having been presented at this time, we conclude purposing to meet again in this place at the specified time in the Eighth month next.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 4th of 8th. Month 1852.

Present — Othniel Foster, Thos B. Gould William Hill Benj^n Tucker, Nathan Buffinton John T. Kenyon, Israel Buffinton, Harvey Chace George M. Eddy, Miller Chace, Thos Foster, and George C. Kenyon — Twelve members.

This meeting having been engaged for some time in the consideration of divers subjects affecting the welfare of our Religious Society, but which did not appear to be sufficiently matured to be entered on our records — we conclude purposing to meet again at the usual time in the Eleventh month next at Fall River.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 3d of Eleventh Month 1852. Present — Francis Taber, John Wilbur, Othniel Foster, Thomas B. Gould, Thomas K. Wilbur William Hill, Benj^a Tucker, Nathan Buffinton, John T. Kenyon, Israel Buffinton, Charles Perry, Harvey Chace, George M. Eddy, Ethan Foster, Miller Chace, Thomas Foster and George C. Kenyon — 17 members.

The meting having again been occupied for a considerable time in the consideration of several matters of interest & importance which were brought before it . . . . Without further reference thereto upon our records at this time, we have concluded to adjourn to meet again at the stated time in the second month next at North Providence.

Thos B. Gould Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at North Providence 2nd of 2nd Month 1853. Present - John Wilbur Othniel Foster, Thomas B. Gould, William Hill, Nathan Buffinton, John T. Kenyon, Israel Buffinton, Charles Perry, Samuel B. Chace, Harvey Chace, Francis Taber Jun^r and George C. Kenyon — Twelve members.

No business being presented — we conclude purposing to meet again at New Bedford at the stated time, on the day preceding that in which Sandwich Quarterly Meeting is to be held at that place in the Fourth month next.

Thomas B. Gould Clk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford 6th of 4th month 1853.

Present — Peleg Mitchell, Thos B. Gould, Thos K. Wilbur, Benjamin Gardner, Job Eddy, Benjamin Tucker, Nathan Buffinton, John T. Kenyon, Israel Buffinton, Stephen Swift, Francis Taber Junr, George M. Eddy, Christopher C. Hussey, and James Austin — Fourteen members.

The subject of making provission for the approaching Yearly Meeting coming before us at this time our Friends Benjamin Tucker, Job Eddy, Benjamin Gardner, Israel Buffinton, Francis Taber Junr and Thomas K. Wilbur are appointed to make the necessary provisjon for the Yearly Meeting; and they are requested to exercise due care that Friends are relieved from embarrassment on account of the expenses incurred by their attendance of said meeting; — in which Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore, ~~and~~ The Clerk is directed to furnish that Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute, and the Committee is authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the amount of their expenditure.

No other business being presented — we conclude purposing to meet again at Newport at the stated time in the Sixth Month next.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the eleventh of the sixth month 1853.

Present — John Wilbur, Peleg Mitchell, Nathan Page, Ethniel Foster, Thomas B. Gould, George F. Read Thomas K. Wilbur, Benjamin Gardner, Job Eddy William Hill, Nathan Buffinton, Israel Buffinton Charles Perry, George M. Eddy, Ethan Foster, Thomas Foster, James Austin & George C. Kenyon — Eighteen members.

No other business being presented — The clerk was directed to lay the Records of this meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting; and it was concluded to adjourn to meet again at the rise of the Yearly Meeting.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, at the rise of the Yearly Meeting, the 16th of the 6th month 1853.

The following Extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting was received & read at this time and directed to be recorded. And on the names of the Friends ~~appointed~~ to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings the present year being called it appeared that they were all present, except six.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Newport on Rhode Island by adjournments from the 12th of the 6th Month, to the 16th of the same inclusive 1853.

Third day of the week & 14th of the month.

The minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings were introduced at this time, and being read were approved; and a proposition having been made that the

Friends composing that Body be continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, it was united with and they are accordingly appointed to that service, with the exception of our late esteemed Friend William Slade deceased. Their names are as follows; Viz: Francis Taber John Wilbur, Peleg Mitchell, Nathan Page, Othniel Foster, Thos B. Gould, George F. Read, Thos K. Wilbur Benj^a Gardner, Job Eddy, William Hill, Benjamin Tucker, Nathan Bussinton Thomas Wilbur, John I. Kenyon, Israel Bussinton, Charles Perry, Stephen Swift, Aaron Varney Samuel B. Chace, Harvey Chace Francis Taber Jun^r George M. Eddy, Wm B. Oliver Pelatiah Hussey, Ethan Foster, Christopher C. Hussey, Amos C. Wilbur, Miller Chace Thomas T. Foster, James Austin and George C. Kenyon.

Extracted from the minutes and signed in behalf of the meeting, by

Peleg Mitchell Clerk this year.

The time for which the Clerk of this meeting was appointed having expired and it being proposed that Thomas B. Gould should continue to serve the Meeting - the proposition was united with, and he was accordingly appointed Clerk for the ensuing year.

It was concluded that our Stated meetings be held at the same times & places as by minute of last year after which, no other business was introduced and the meeting concluded - purposing to meet again at this place in the 8th month next.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 3d of 8th month 1853. Present — John Wilbur Thomas B. Gould, Job Eddy, Benjamin Tucker Nathan Buffinton, John T. Kenyon, Israel Buffinton, Harvey Chace and Thomas Foster and Millar Chace - 10 members

A written document affecting the welfare and reputation of our Religious Society, having been laid before the meeting, and read as far as the 24th page it was concluded to adjourn to the eighth hour tomorrow morning.

Fifth day morning the 4th of the month. met pursuant to adjournment. Present the same Friends as yesterday with the addition of our Friend George C. Kenyon.

The reading of the Document above referred to was proceeded with to the conclusion - and the further consideration of the same was referred to Job Eddy, Thos B. Gould, Israel Buffinton, Harvey Chace and Nathan Buffinton, who are requested to report thereon at our next meeting.

Having attended to what has come before us at this time - we conclude - purposing to meet again at Fall River at the Stated time in the Eleventh month next.

Thos B. Gould. Clerk.

At a special meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 26th of 9th month 1853. Present - John Wilbur, Thos B. Gould, Thomas K. Wilbur, Job Eddy Benjamin Tucker Nathan Buffinton, John T. Kenyon Israel Buffinton, Harvey Chace, Francis Taber Jun., George M. Eddy. Amos C. Wilbur, Millar Chace and Thomas Wilbur — 14 members.

This meeting was convened in pursuance of the following requisition.

To Thomas B. Gould, Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings.

Dear Friend.

The undersigned — members of the Meeting for Sufferings, request that thou as Clerk thereof wouldst call a meeting of that Body to meet at Fall River on Second day the 26th of the present month at 3 o'clock in the afternoon — on busines connected with our friend John Wilburs contemplated visit to England and Ireland.

Fall River 9th mo 21st 1853.

Israel Buffinton
Amos C. Wilbur
Nathan Buffinton
Thomas Wilbur.

Our beloved Friend John Wilbur laid before this meeting his prospect of religious service in Great Britain and Ireland; and made some statements with regard to existing circumstances in that part of the Society, which in his apprehension may require his having the advice and assistance of his Friends at home during his sojourn in that Land; Our minds were afresh brought into near sympathy and unity with him in a concern for the faithful maintenance and advocacy of our Ancient Principles and Testimonies, and, Job Eddy, Thos B. Gould, Israel Buffinton, Thomas Wilbur and Harvey Chace, are appointed a committee to act on behalf of this meeting, and with whom he may correspond and advise in regard to any emergency which in his judgment may require their counsel or assistance; and if, in the judgment of said committee their aid should be required in regard to any matter which they may feel a delicacy in deciding upon without the concurrence of this Meeting, they are requested to call the

same together, at as early a day as may be practicable in order that it may be resulted without unnecessary delay. —

No other business being presented, we conclude and propose to meet again at the stated time in the Eleventh month next.

Thos B. Gould Clerk.

At a Meting for Sufferings held at Fall River 2nd of 11th month 1853. Present – Othniel Foster, Thos B. Gould, Thos K Wilbur, Benjamin Gardner, William Hill Benjamin Tucker, Nathan Buffinton, John T. Kenyon Israel Buffinton, Charles Perry, Samuel B. Chace Harvey Chace, Francis Taber Junr, George M. Eddy, Millar Chace, Thomas Foster & George C. Kenyon — 17 members.

The committee appointed in the 8th month last to consider a certain Document which was read at that time, and to report thereon, inform, that they have paid some attention to the subject, but are not ready to make a final Report:– The subject is therefore continued under their care — Charles Perry, William Hill, Thos K. Wilbur and Francis Taber Junr are added to the committee, and they are requested to report to this Meting when ready.

Having attended to such subjects as have come before us at this time we conclude purposing to meet again at the stated time in the Second Month next at North Providence.

Thos B. Gould Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at North Providence 1st of 2nd month 1854. Present — Othniel Foster, Thos K. Wilbur, John T. Kinyon Israel Buffington, Charles Perry, Thomas Wilbur Stephen Swift, Samuel B. Chace, Harvey Chace Francis Taber Junr, George M. Eddy, Than Foster Thomas Foster, & George C. Kinyon — 14 members.

The clerk of this meting being absent by reason of severe illness, Harvey Chace was appointed clerk for the day. —

Having been engaged for a considerable time in the consideration of subjects of interest to our religious Society - but which required no minute - we conclude, purposing to meet again at the stated time in the 4th month next at New Bedford.

Harvey Chace Clerk for the day. —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford 5th of 4th month 1854. — Present — John Wilbur, Peleg Mitchell, Thos B. Gould Thomas K. Wilbur, Benjamin Gardiner, William Hill, Benjamin Tucker Charles Perry Stephen Swift, Harvey Chace, Francis Taber Jr George M. Eddy, and James Austin — 13 members.

The subject of making provision for the approaching yearly meeting coming before us at this time Benjamin Gardiner, Thos B. Gould, Harvey Chace Benjn Tucker Francis Taber Jr William Hill & Charles Perry were appointed to that service and they are requested to act herein, in conformity with the minute of this meeting, upon the same subject, held in the fourth month last; - in which Rhode Island

Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore, and the Clerk is directed to furnish that Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute.

No other subject requiring to be entered on our records being introduced at this time - we conclude postponing to meet again at Newport at the stated time in the 6th month next.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk.

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 10th of 6th month 1854. Present - John Wilbur, Peleg Mitchell, Othniel Foster, Thos B. Gould, George F. Read. Thomas K. Wilbur, Benjamin Gardner William Hill, Nathan Buffinton, Thomas Wilbur Israel Buffinton, Charles Peny, Stephen Swift; Francis Taber Jr Geny M. Eddy, Ethan Foster Miller Chace, Thomas Foster & George C. Kenyon. — — 19 members. —

This Meeting has been again occupied with divers subjects of much weight and importance — considerable time has been spent thereon; and our minds have been brought under an engagement for the faithful maintenance of the Principles and Testimony of Truth; and for the preservation of ~~the~~ our religious Society from the many dangers and hurtful tendencies of the present day; — but as the time for further action, by this Meeting, did not appear to have fully come it was not thought best, now explicitly, to refer thereto upon our minutes. The clerk was directed to lay the Minutes of this Meeting before the Yearly Meeting and it was concluded to adjourn to meet again at the rise of the Yearly Meeting. Thos B. Gould Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport at the rise of the Yearly - the 14th of 6th mo. 1854.

The following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meting was received and read at this time, and directed to be recorded: and the names of the Friends therein mentioned being called -- Twenty two members were present.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Newport on Rhode Island by adjournments from the 11th of 6th Month to the 14th of the same inclusive 1854. — Third day of the week & 13th of the month.

The records of the Meting for Sufferings having been introduced and read at this time; were approved and a proposition being made that the Friends ~~Com~~posing that body last year should be continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, it was united with and they are accordingly continued and appointed to that service with the exception of our late beloved Friends Francis Taber and Job Eddy deceased. Viz:
John Wilbur, Peleg Mitchell, Nathan Page, Othniel Foster, Thomas B. Gould, George F. Read, Thomas K. Wilbur, Benjamin Gardner, William Hill, Benjamin Tucker, Nathan Buffinton, Thos Wilbur John T. Kenyon, Israel Buffinton, Charles Perry Stephen Swift, Aaron Varney, Samuel B. Chace, Harvey Chace, Francis Taber Junr George M. Eddy William B. Oliver, Pelatiah Hussey, Ethan Foster, Christopher C. Hussey, Amos C. Wilbur, Millar Chace, Thos Foster, James Austin & George C. Kenyon.
Extracted from the minutes & signed on behalf of the Meting. by
Peleg Mitchell, Clerk this year.

The time for which the clerk of this meeting was appointed having expired, and it being proposed to continue the former clerk another year, Thomas B. Gould was accordingly continued & appointed to that service.

It was concluded that our stated meetings be held at the same times & places as last year after which, no further business was introduced and the meeting rose purposing to meet again at the usual time in the 8th month next at Newport.

Thos B. Gould Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 2nd of 8th month 1854. Present - John Wilbur Obadiah Foster, Thomas B. Gould, William Hill Thomas Wilbur, John T. Kinyon, Israel Buffington, Charles Perry, George M. Eddy, Millar Chase, Thomas Foster, and George C. Kinyon - 12 members.

Our last yearly Meeting having recommended to Friends generally to enter into a voluntary subscription for the purpose of purchasing a Lot and building a meeting house thereon for the accommodation of Friends in Lynn, Massachusetts; - which subscription appears to have been filled up with the understanding that the property was to be held by the Yearly Meeting for the benefit of Friends there; - and this meeting being also informed, that in order to secure a suitable location, a lot has been purchased and the title vested in a Friend of Lynn, which

he is desirous of transferring in conformity with the expectation and original intention of the contributors;— William Hill, Valentine Meader, George M. Eddy, William B. Oliver and Israel Buffinton are appointed a committee to see that such conveyance of the property is duly and legally made and to receive and hold the same, in trust, for the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England; and the Clerk is directed to furnish them with a copy of this minute.

No other business was presented; and the meeting concluded — purposing to meet again at the stated time in the eleventh month next at Fall River.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 1st of 11th month 1854.— Present John Wilbur Ethniel Foster, Thomas B. Gould, Thomas K. Wilbur William Hill, Benjamin Tucker, Nathan Buffinton Thomas Wilbur, John T. Kenyon, Israel Buffinton, Charles Perry, Harvey Chace, Francis Taber, George M. Eddy, Ethan Foster, Amos C. Wilbur, Allen Chace Thomas Foster & George C. Kenyon — 19 members.

The committee appointed at our last meeting to receive a conveyance of the Meeting house & Lot at Lynn Mass. and to hold the same in trust for the Yearly Meeting report that they have paid some attention to the subject, but are not ready to make a final Report.

they are therefore continued in charge of the subject and are desired to report to our next meeting.

A certain Document affecting the reputation and welfare of our religious Society, having been laid before this meeting in the 8th month last year and referred to a committee, - to which an addition was made in the 11th month following; - said committee have had the subject under their serious consideration; but owing to a variety of causes way has not opened for them to act therein; and the subject being now revived our friend John Willbur was added to the committee in the place of our late beloved Friend Job Eddy deceased; and they were authorized, if necessary, to have the document reprinted, for greater certainty and readier reference, and encouraged to avail themselves of the earliest opportunity to review the same and refute the erroneous conclusions therein taken against Friends: the committee are also desired to report to this meeting when ready.

Adjourned to the 9th hour to-morrow morning.

Fifth day morning the 2nd of the month - near the time adjourned to the meeting again assembled James Austin a member of this meeting is now present.

The present deeply affecting state of our Religious Society and the continued need of explicit information being spread abroad among its members respecting the numerous departures from the ancient Standard of our Christian Profession in Principle and Doctrine, as being the true ground and cause of the local separations which have recently occurred within the limits of different Yearly Meetings - having been seriously brought to view; the minds

of Friends were introduced into much concern that the testimony of Truth may be faithfully advocated and supported and Charles Perry Thomas B. Gould, William Hill, Ethan Foster Israel Buffinton Harvey Chace George C. Kenyon and Francis Taber are appointed a committee; and desired to avail themselves of every right opening for the spreading of correct information and the defence of our ancient Principles when in their judgment the former may be needed & the latter are assailed & endangered — and they are requested to give that attention to the subject which its importance demands and to endeavour to carry out the concern of this meeting, and to make report thereof at their attention to the service.

No other business being introduced at this time the meeting concluded — purposing to meet again at the stated time in the 1st month next at North Providence.

Thomas B. Gould Clerk.

At a meeting for sufferings held at North Providence 31st of 1st month 1855. Present John Wilbur Nathan Page Othniel Foster, Thos B. Gould, Thomas K. Wilbur, William Hill, Thomas Wilbur, John T. Kenyon Israel Buffinton, Charles Perry, Samuel B. Chace, Harvey Chace, Francis Taber, George M. Eddy, Ethan Foster, Millar Chace, Thomas Foster, George C. Kenyon — eighteen members.

The committee charged with the subject of receiving of receiving a conveyance of the meeting house and lot at Lynn not being prepared to make a full report at this time are continued & desired to report to our next meeting.

The committee appointed at our last meeting, and charged with a consideration of the present state of our Society, and the subject of spreading explicit information in relation thereto, report, having paid some attention to the subject, but that way had not opened for them to take much action as yet; although it was the united sense and judgment of those of the committee who were together, that the circumstances of the case and of the times require that some means of counting the misstatements both of facts and of Principles which are being repeatedly put forth by the adversaries of Truth should be provided. The Friends now under appointment are continued and desired to give further attention to the subject and John Wilbur is added to the committee.

Our beloved Friend John Wilbur having felt his mind exercised brought under a religious concern to advocate the Cause of Truth & Primitive Christianity as originally professed by Friends, but which is now mournfully departed from and contravened by many under our name, laid an Essay in Manuscript before this meeting for our consideration which has been read to our comfort & encouragement. and which is referred for further consideration, to Thos B. Gould, Nathan Page, Israel Buffington, Charles Perry, William Hill, Thomas Wilbur & Harvey Chace who are requested to transcribe the same, and to make such alterations therein as may appear to be advisable and to lay it before an adjournment of this meeting. adjourned to the third third day of next month to meet at the 10 h hour in the morning at this place.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at North Providence by adjournment 20th of 2nd Month 1855. Present - John Wilbur, Nathan Page, Thomas K. Wilbur, William Hill, Thomas Wilbur, John T. Kenyon, Isaac Buffington, Charles Peny, Samuel B. Chace, Harvey Chace, George W. Eddy, Ethan Foster, Amos C. Wilbur & George C. Kenyon - 14 Members.

The Clerk being absent, by reason of indisposition, Harvey Chace was appointed Clerk for this time.

The opinion of the Supreme Judicial court of Mass as result in the cases of Oliver Earle & others against Wm. Wood & others, having been read in this, and at a former sitting, was referred to a committee for their consideration, as a matter affecting the welfare & reputation of our religious Society inasmuch as many of the principles therein laid down, & represented to be binding upon all our members both as regards the discipline & doctrines of Friends, are such as have never been known or recognized by the Society; and if admitted would be subversive alike of our civil rights & religious principles. The committee at this time produced a review of said opinion, wherein some of the manifest erroneous & dangerous views of the Court are adverted to & their inconsistency set forth; & also the long established & unchangeable character of the doctrines of Friends, as well as the correct principles & usages of our System of Church Government maintained in regard to the

matters under consideration, which Report has been read in & approved by this meeting, & directed to be printed, and one of the legal counsellors employed by our Friends of Thomas Hewitt & others in the preparation & advocacy of their cause, has addressed an explanatory letter to the committee & also furnished them with the substance of the argument prepared by him & his colleagues in defence of the case in an important aspect of it in which many unquestionable authorities and much legal evidence showing the unlawful nature of the ground upon which the opinion appears to be based, are adduced & enforced, it was concluded that it would be best to append the same to the Report.

The clerk is directed to furnish the committee with a copy of the foregoing minute for publication & to sign the same on behalf of this meeting, and the essay of the Report is referred back to the same committee for verbal correction & preparation for the press which they are requested to superintend; they are also directed to have 1500 copies printed for gratuitous distribution & authorized to draw on the treasurer of the meeting for the expense thereby incurred.

The manuscript of our beloved friend Thomas Hillier entitled "A few remarks upon the controversy between good & evil, having reference to the present condition of the Society of Friends, which was laid before our last monthly & referred to a committee for their consideration having now presented & read, was approved & it is left at liberty to publish the same.

committee to advise with & assist him in the publication thereof & they are authorized to draw on the treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense of printing one thousand copies.

The committee appointed in the Eleventh month last and requested to avail themselves of every right opening for the "spreading correct information & the defence of our ancient principles" when in their judgment the same may be necessary, now presented an essay written by one of their number & entitled "An Examination of a review of the causes and course of the division in the Yearly Meeting of Ohio." which was read considered & approved by this meeting; & believing that useful ness will result from the publication thereof, the committee is authorized to have two thousand copies printed in the name of this shether, for gratuitous distribution, & to draw on the treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost of the same.

The business laid before the meeting at this time having been brought to a close we concluded purposing to meet again at the stated time in the 4th mo. next at New Bedford.

Harvey Shaw clerk for the time.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the 4th of 4th month 1855. Present — Benjamin Gardner, Benjamin Tucker, William Hill, Israel Buffington, James Austin, Thomas R. Pillow, George H. Eddy, Francis Taber, Stephen Swift and Peleg Mitchell — 10 members.

The Clerk of this meeting being absent Peleg Mitchell is appointed clerk to this time.

The committee to whom was referred the charge of securing a conveyance of the meeting house and lot at Lynn although they have given further attention to the subject — are not yet prepared to make a full report at this time they are therefore continued and requested to report to our next meeting.

The subject of making the necessary provision for the approaching Yearly Meeting coming under consideration at this time; Israel Buffington, Francis Taber, William Hill, Benjamin Gardner and Thomas R. Pillow are appointed to that service; and they are requested to act therein in accordance with the views of this meeting as expressed in a minute in relation to the subject made on the 4th month 1853; in which Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid, as heretofore, and the clerk is directed to furnish that Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute, and the Committee is authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the amount of expenditures incurred.

The business brought before this meeting being accomplished, we conclude proposing to meet again at Newport at the stated time in the sixth month next.

(signed) Peleg Mitchell Clerk
for this time.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 9th of 6th month 1855. Present John Wilbur Peleg Mitchell Nathan Page, Daniel Foster, Thos B. Gould, George H. Read, Thomas R. Wilbur, Benjamin Gardner, Nathan Buffinton and Isaac Buffinton — ten members.

One of the committee having charge of the matter in relation to the Title to the meeting house and lot at Lynn informed, that in consequence of sickness they had not been able to make a final report at this time as requested and expected — the subject is therefore continued under the care of the same committee who are desired to attend thereto as soon as practicable and to report to this meeting when accomplished.

It appears that the committee charged with preparing through the press the Review of the Opinion of the Supreme court of Massachusetts;- the pamphlet entitled A few Remarks upon the controversy between God and Evil &c; and our friend Ethan Foster's Examination of a Review of the Causes & course of the division in the Yearly meeting of Ohio have caused 1500 copies of the first, one thousand of the second and two thousand copies of the last

named essays to be printed that they have paid the cost of printing by a draft on the treasurer of the yearly meeting, and that many of each of the publications have been distributed while a few remain on hand.

The Clerk was directed to lay the records of this meeting, during the past year, before the yearly meeting.

Then adjourned to meet again at the rise of the yearly meeting.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk.

At a meeting for sufferings held in Newport at the rise of the Yearly Meeting the 13th of the 6th month 1855.

The following minute of the yearly meeting has been received & read at this time and directed to be recorded; and the names of the Friends therein mentioned as having been appointed to constitute this meeting for the ensuing year, being called it appeared that 19 of them number were present.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Newport on Rhode Island, by adjournments from the 10th of the 6th month to the 13th of the same inclusive 1855.

The Friends appointed at our sitting yesterday afternoon to consider of and lay

before the meeting a list of the names of suitable Friends to compose a meeting for Sufferings, have produced the following, which after a time of consideration was approved and the Friends named are accordingly appointed to constitute a meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year. viz. John Wilbur Peleg Mitchell Nathan Page Daniel Foster Thomas B. Gould, Benjamin Gardner William Hill, Benjamin Lawton, Harvey Chase Thomas K. Wilbur, Israel Bullington, Charles Perry, George F. Read Thomas Wilbur John T. Kenyon William B. Chace, Stephen Swift, George H. Eddy, Samuel B. Chace, Ethan Foster Francis Jabez, George C. Kenyon, James Austin, Nathan Bullington, Aaron Carney Dillar Chace, Silas C. Wilbur, Thomas Foster, Patrick Mulvey, Valentine Meader.

Extracted from the minutes and signed on behalf of the meeting

by Peleg Mitchell clerk this year.

The time for which the clerk of this meeting was appointed having expired, and it being proposed to continue the present one in the appointment - Thomas B. Gould was accordingly continued and appointed to the service for the year ensuing.

It was unanimously agreed that our Stated meetings be held at the same times & places as last year. The meeting then concluded - proposing to meet again in this place at the usual time in the 8th month next. Thomas B. Gould Clerk

At a meeting for Sufferings held in Newport 1st of 8th month 1855. Present — Ethniel Foster, Thomas B. Gould, Benjamin Gardner, William Hill, Benjamin Tucker, Israel Buffinton, Thomas Wilbur, Stephen Swift ~~Ethan Foster~~ Francis Taber, George C. Kinyon Nathan Buffinton, Millar Chace. 12 members.

One of the committee charged with re=ceiving and holding a Deed of the meeting house and lot in Lynn, in trust for the yearly meeting informed that a conveyance of that property had been made in conform=ity with the direction of this meeting — but the Deed not being present at this time the subject was referred to our next meet=ing under care of the same committee.

No other business being presented at this time — the meeting concluded — purposing to meet again at Fall River, at the usual time in the 10th month next.

Thos B. Gould. Clerk.

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 31st of 10th month 1855. Present — John Wilbur, Thomas B. Gould, William Hill, Benjamin Tucker, Harvey Chace, Thomas K. Wilbur, Israel Buffinton, Stephen Swift, Ethan Foster, Francis Taber, George C. Kinyon, Nathan Buffinton, Millar Chace, Amos C. Wilbur, & Thomas Foster — fifteen members.

The committee charged with receiving a conveyance of the meeting house and lot in Lynn Massachusetts, now produced a Deed# of that property, which has been read in this meeting and being satisfactory thereto - it was directed to be placed with the records of this meeting.

No other business was presented at this time, and the meeting concluded - purposing to meet again at North Providence, at the stated time in the 2nd month next.

Thomas B. Gould. Clerk.

This Deed of the meeting house lot in Lynn, is recorded with "Essex Deeds", Book 516. Leaf 7. —

At a Meeting of Sufferings held at Marion the 6th of 2d Month 1856.

Present, John Wilbur, Othniel Baker, William Hill, Harvey Chace, Charles Penn, Thomas Wilbur, John T. Kenyon, George M. Eddy, Samuel B. Chace, Ethan Foster, George C. Kenyon and Miller Chace. 12 members.

The Clerk of this Meeting being absent on account of sickness, Charles Penn is appointed to act as clerk at this time.

The subject of the continued minute there is for the diffusion of correct information relative to the present disturbed condition of our religious Society, and the causes which have led to such sad results, claimed the attention of Friends; and after some deliberation thereon, it was continued under the care of the Committee appointed in the 11th month 1854 who are desired to give such attention thereto as may open for and report their doings to this Meeting at a future time.

No other business appearing to require our attention at this time the meeting concluded, proposing to meet at New Bedford at the usual time in the 4th Month next.

Charles Penn Clerk for the day.

At a meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford 2d of 11th mo 1856

Our beloved friend Thomas B Gould ~~has been removed by death~~ the Clerk of this meeting being removed by death Peleg Mitchell is appointed to act in that capacity at this time

Present Benjamin Gardner, William Hill, Peleg Mitchell, Nanny Chace, Thomas K Williams, George F Read, Francis Taber, Stephen Swift, George H Eddy, & John S Kenyon ~~& Francis Taber~~ 10 members

One of the Committee alluded to in a minute of the last meeting of this body as appointed in the eleventh Month eighteen hundred & fifty four, having introduced to our notice a tract* the nature of which will be likely to foment the concern of this meeting in spreading correct information in relation to the "true ground & cause of the depressions which have occurred recently as caused, within the limits of deepest concern by Meeting!" the reading thereof was entered upon, and extended & the further reading & consideration of the 5 8th page, which is referred to, our next Meeting

The Subject of making the necessary provision for the approaching Yearly Meeting coming under consideration at this time. Nanny Chace, William Hill, Francis Taber, Benjamin Gardner Thomas K Williams & George H Eddy are appointed to that service & they are requested to act thereon in accordance with the

*entitled An examination of the Remarks & Teachings of Rev. John Pierce Hodgson &c

views of the meeting as expressed in a minute relating to the subject in the 4th month 1853 in which Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore, and the clerk is directed to furnish that Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute, and the Committee are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the amount required

The business of the meeting being brought to a close, we conclude purposing to meet at Newport at the usual time in the sixth month next

Peleg Mitchell Clerk for the day

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 14th of 6mo 1856 Peleg Mitchell having been requested to act as Clerk at this time

Present Nathan Page, Thos. Foster, Peleg Mitchell, Benjamin Gardner, William Hill, Harvey Chace, Thomas R. Willett, Israel Buffington, Charles Perry, George F. Read, Thomas Willett, Stephen Smith, George M. Eddy, Ethan Foster, Francis Taber, George C. Kenyon, James Austin, Nathan Buffington. Members, together with several of our beloved friends, members of the meetings for sufferings of other Yearly Meetings.

The subject of the document which was referred to this meeting from the minutes of our last, Cannot be referred at this time (in consequence of other important business, which is likely to claim our attention) is again referred for further and

ing to consideration to a future meeting.

A memorial from Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, approved by Rhode Isl. and Quarterly Meeting*, has been introduced & read ~~& this time~~ to our satisfaction & edification, and after a time of weighty deliberation, was fully approved; the Clerk is directed to lay it before the approaching Yearly Meeting.

The business of the meeting being concluded the Clerk is directed to lay our records for the past year before the ensuing yearly Meeting.

Peleg Mitchell Clerk for the time

*Concerning our late beloved friend Thomas B Gould

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport at the rise of the Yearly Meeting the 18th of 6th month 1856.

We have received the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting, which was read and directed to be recorded: namely

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Newport on Rhode Island by adjournments from the 15th of Sixth month 1856 to the 18th of the same inclusive

4th day of the Week and 18th of the month.

The Committee appointed to propose the names of suitable Friends to compose a Meeting for Sufferings have produced the following, which after a time of consideration were approved and they were accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year. viz.

Peleg Mitchell, Nathan Page, Francis Taber, Othniel Foster, William Hill, Benjamin Gardner, Silatiah Hussey, John Paddock, Benjamin Tucker, Israel Buffington, James Austin, Thomas Wilbur, Ethan Foster, Thomas K. Wilbur, William P. Oliver, Amos C. Wilbur, John T. Kenyon, George C. Kenyon, Philip Tripp, George W. Eddy, George F. Read, Isaac Varney, Stephen Swift, Miller Chace, Valentine Meader, Charles Perry and Levi Chase.

Extracted from the minutes and signed on behalf of the Meeting by

Peleg Mitchell Clerk this Year."

And the names of the Friends therein mentioned being called they were all present & answered thereto except five.

We have appointed Charles Peny to serve this Meeting as Clerk for the ensuing year.

It is concluded that this Meeting hold its stated Meetings at the same times and places as last Year - Viz. at the third hour in the afternoon of the day preceding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held at Newport, in the 8th Month, at Fall River, in the 11th Month, and at North Providence, in the 2d Month; at the same hour of the day preceding that on which Sandwich Quarterly Meeting is held at New Bedford, in the 4th Month, and at three Oclock, in the afternoon of the 7th day on which the Select Yearly Meeting Commences at Newport.

No other business having been presented at this time, we conclude - purposing to meet again in this place at the stated time in the eighth month next.

Charles Peny Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6th of 8th Month 1856. Present Othniel Potter, William Hill, Benjamin Tucker, Israel Buffington, Thomas Wilbur, Ethan Potter, George C. Kenyon, Philip Tripp, George M. Eddy, Miller Chace, Charles Perry Levi Chace and John T. Kenyon Thirteen members.

The reading of the work entitled "An Examination of the memoirs and writings of Joseph John Gurney; by Wm. Hodgson Jr." which was entered upon in the 4th. Month last, was resumed at this time, and concluded; & this Meeting cordially approves thereof as an able and faithful exposition of the radical difference between the doctrine spread abroad by J. J. Gurney and those of our ancient Friends — and of the disingenuous manner in which that author labored to undermine and transform the latter; — also bringing to view some of the sad effects produced in our once happily united Society by means of his unsound doctrines. The Committee having in charge the dissemination of correct information on these subjects is encouraged to distribute this publication as way may open, and is authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost thereof.

Adjourned to meet again tomorrow morning at half past 9 O'clock, at this place.

Fifth day morning 7th of 8th Month the Meeting again convened —

In compliance with the recommendation of the Yearly Meeting it is concluded to publish the

memorials of deceased Friends which have been approved by this Meeting and not heretofore printed and our friends Charles Peny, Ethan Foster, Israel Buffinton and George M. Eddy are appointed to have charge of the same and directed to have 500 copies printed and distributed within our limits and elsewhere as they may deem proper, and draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense thereof.

No other business appearing to claim our attention at this time, we conclude, purposing to meet again at Fall River at the stated time in the 11th Month next.

Charles Peny Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 5th of 11th Month, 1856.

Present, Francis Taber, Othniel Foster, William Hill, Benjamin Tasker, Israel Buffinton Ethan Foster, Amos C. Wilbur, John T. Kenyon, George C. Kenyon, Miller Chace Valentine Mason Charles Peny and Levi Chace; 13 Members.

One of the Committee appointed at our last Meeting to have charge of the Publication of Memorials of deceased Friends reports that they have attended to that service - having had Five hundred copies printed, as directed, a portion of which have been distributed.

The Committee appointed in the Eleventh Month 1854 to promote the spread of correct information for the defence of our ancient principles, presented to this Meeting a pamphlet entitled, "A reply to editorial remarks in 'The Friend' of 2d Month 23d 1856, by Ethan Foster," which having been at this time read and considered, is approved, and the Committee is authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost of said publication.

Information having been given to this Meeting that our late beloved friend John Wilbur has left a Journal in manuscript, which it is believed will be useful and promotive of the cause of Truth if published: we appoint our friends Ethan Foster, Charles Peirce, Valentine Meader, Othniel Foster, Amos C. Wilbur and William Hill to examine and revise the same with a view to its publication if way should open for it and produce the same to a future meeting.

No further business appearing to claim our attention at this time, we conclude purposing to meet again at North Providence at the usual time in the 2d Month next.

Charles Peirce Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at North Providence 4th. of 2d. Month 1857;

Present — Nathan Page, Othniel Foster, William Hill, Israel Buffinton, Thomas Wilbur, Ethan Foster, John T. Kenyon, George C. Kenyon, Charles Peny and Levi Chase; 10 Members

No business appearing to require our consideration at this time we conclude; purposing to meet again at New Bedford, at the stated period in the Fourth Month next.

Charles Peny Clerk.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford 1st of 4th Month 1857;

Present Benjamin Gardner, Thomas Wilbur, Benjamin Tucker, William Hill, Thomas A. Tilden, Stephen Swift, Francis Taber, Israel Buffinton, Charles N. Eddy, Levi Chase, James Austin & Peleg Mitchell; 12 Members.

The Clerk of this body not being present Peleg Mitchell is appointed to serve in that capacity for this time.

The following communication and minute from the minutes of Lynn Quarterly Meeting having been introduced and read; namely,

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends;

The Committee to whom was referred the subject

Friend, William Hill, Israel Sanford, Isaac P. Peirce, Stephen Wright, Thomas Hicks, Isaac Lawton & Peleg Mitchell to consider the subject matter and report to a future sitting of this Meeting.

Israel Sanford, William Hill, Benjamin Turner, Levi Chase and Benjamin Gardner, are appointed to make the necessary provision for the holding of our next Quarterly Meeting & the accommodation of Friends in attendance; in which Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is invited to join with us in Session, and the Clerk is directed to furnish them with a copy of this minute. The committee are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Quarterly Meeting for the expence incurred.

The business now before us being accomplished we conclude, inviting the next quarterly meeting at the stated time in the first month next.

Peleg Mitchell was in the chair.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 13th & 6th Month 1857.

Present

Peleg Mitchell, Nathan Page, Francis Baker, Obadiah Gale, William Hill, Benjamin Gardner, Jonathan Sanford, Israel Sanford, Ethan Gale, Samuel Williams, John C. Pierce, George C. Hazard, George M. Eddy, Henry Hall, Stephen Lawton, Willet Chace,

South Carolina } In Equity.

Memorial from South Kingstown Meeting House
and the Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting con-
cerning the late bequest of Friends John & Lydia
Wilbur and Thomas Hazard to their heirs in
trust and for education and support, and
also setting forth their views in regard
to the power and duty of Friends
[illegible] the Yearly Meeting.

The subject of the Memorial having been
[illegible] it is directed to lay over
for the next session before the Yearly Meeting.

Extract from the minutes of the [illegible]
the Yearly Meeting.

Charles Penny Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport at the rise of the Yearly Meeting on the 17th. of Sixth month 1857.

The following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting has been received and read; and is directed to be recorded — namely,

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England held at Newport on Rhode Island by adjournments from the 14th. of the 6th Month 1857 to the 17th. of the same inclusive.

3d day of the week & 16th of the Month:

The Committee appointed this morning to consider of and lay before the Meeting a list of the names of suitable Friends to compose a Meeting for Sufferings have produced the following, viz.

Peleg Mitchell, Nathan Page, Francis Saber, Othniel Foster, William Hill, Benjamin Gardner, Pelatiah Hussey, John Paddock, Benjamin Tucker, Israel Baffinton, James Austin, Thomas Wilbur, Ethan Foster, Thomas K. Wilbur, William B. Oliver, Amos C. Wilbur, John T. Kenyon, George C. Kenyon, Philip Tripp, George M. Eddy, George F. Read, Harvey Chace, Stephen Swift, Miller Chace, Valentine Meader, Charles Peny and Levi Chase; which being considered were approved and they accordingly accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing.

Extracted from the minutes and signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting by

Peleg Mitchell Clerk this year."

And the names of the Friends therein Mentioned being called, twenty two members were present and answered thereto.

Charles Peny is appointed to serve this meeting as clerk for the ensuing year.

It is concluded that our stated meetings be held at the same times and places as last year, namely, At the 3d hour in the afternoon of the day preceding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held at Newport in the 8th Month at Fall River in the 11th Month and at North Providence in the 2d Month; at the same hour of the day preceding that on which Sandwich Quarterly Meeting is held at New Bedford in the 4th Month; and at 3 O'clock in the afternoon of the 7th day on which the Select Yearly Meeting commences at Newport.

The memorials concerning our late beloved Friends John Wilbur & Lydia his wife and Thomas Foster which were by this Meeting directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting having been approved by that body and refered back to this Meeting for publication, we appoint our friends William Hill, Israel Buffinton, George M. Eddy, Charles Peny, Harvey Chace & Ethan Foster to attend to the printing and distribution of the same and they are directed to have 1,000 copies published & bound, embracing also the Memorials of deceased Friends which were published last year, that edition having become exhausted. The Committee are also requested to have 1500 copies of the three memorials above named together with that of our late beloved Friend Thomas K. Gould printed & published in Pamphlet form for more general distribution, and are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense attending said publications.

No other business appearing to claim our attention at this time we conclude proposing to meet again at this place at the stated time in the 8th Month next.

Charles Peny Clerke.

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 5th of 8th Month 1857.

Present ten members, viz.
Nathan Page, Othniel Potter, William Hill Isaac Bufinton James Austin George C. Rinyon Geo. M. Eddy Lawry Chace Walter Chace & Levi Chace.

The Clerk of this meeting being absent, James Austin is appointed Clerk for this time.

One of the Committee appointed in the fourth Month last on account of a Communication from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, report that they have paid some attention to the subject of their appointment, and time are continued, to report at a future meeting.

No other business appearing to require attention at this time, we conclude, proposing to meet again in the Eleventh Month next at Fall River.

James Austin [illegible] for the time.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River on the 4th of Eleventh Month 1857.

Present 14 members, Viz:
Ethan Foster, William Hill, Benj^a Gardner Israel Buffinton, Ethan Foster, Thomas K. Wilbur Amos C. Wilbur, John T. Kenyon George C. Kenyon George M. Eddy, Harvey Chace Miller Chace Charles Perry & Levi Chase.

The committee appointed in the 6th Month last to superintend the printing and publication of Memorials of deceased Friends make the following report, which is acceptable to this Meeting; Viz.

"To the Meeting for Sufferings,

The Committee appointed in the Sixth Month last to have charge of the printing & distribution of Memorials concerning deceased Friends, report that they have caused the prescribed number to be printed & bound as directed, a considerable proportion of which have been distributed within the limits of the different Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and that some remain on hand for further distribution, as way may open for it within the limits of London Yearly Meeting and elsewhere - The expense attending this publication is ($ 233.70) [illegible]

Fall River 11th Mo 4, 1857. Israel Buffinton for the Committee."

The same Committee are continued and desired to give such further attention to the object of their appointment as may be needful and way open for.

No further business appearing to call for attention at this time we conclude, purposing to meet again at North Providence at the Stated time in the Second month next.

Charles Penny Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at
Providence the 3d of Second month 1855.

Present the Friends named,
Othniel Foster, William Hill,
Ethan Foster, John T. Kenyon,
George M. Eddy Harvey Chace,

The minute having come [illegible] time
[illegible] in the Lecture of the Society, but which does
[illegible] no further business appearing at present
[illegible] adjourned [illegible]
[illegible] meet.

Charles Penny

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at New Bedford 3mo 31. 1858

Present 13 members, namely Peleg Mitchell, Nathan Page, Francis Taber, William Hill, Benjamin Gardner, John Paddock, Benjamin Tucker, Israel Buffington James Austin Thomas K. Tilton, George M. Eddy, George F. Read and Stephen Swift

The Clerk of this meeting being absent, we appoint George F. Read, Clerk for the day.

Israel Buffington, Wm Hill, Benjamin Gardner, Francis Taber & George F. Read are appointed to make the necessary provision for the holding of our next Yearly Meeting, and for the accomodation of Friends in attendance thereof, in which Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid, as heretofore, and the Clerk is directed to furnish that Meeting with a copy of this minute.

The Committee are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred by them.

No further business appearing to claim our attention, at this time, we conclude, purposing to meet again at Newport, at the appointed time in the 6th month next

George F. Read, Clerk for the day

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at
Crosswicks on the 12th of 5th month 1858

Present 17 Members, Viz. Samuel Allen,
Nathan Page, Thomas Taber, Isaac Hacker,
William Allen, Benjamin Evans, Benjamin
Tucker, David Brainerd, James Cunkle,
Isaac Hall, Thomas R. Wilson, Joseph Kay-
Joseph M. Eaton, Joseph F. Read, Stephen Wright,
Valentine Meader and Charles Perry.

The Committee appointed at Eleventh Month
1856, to examine and revise the Journal of Gen-
eral Meeting proceedings, reported progress
and ~~asked leave~~ to this time, and read as far
as the 33d page in the Manuscript, to the satis-
faction of the Meeting —

The Minutes of the Meeting being now read
the Clerk is directed to lay the Minutes of the
past year before the Yearly Meeting.

Then adjourned to meet again at the time of
the Yearly Meeting.

Charles Perry Clerk

At a meeting for sufferings held at Newport, at the time of the Yearly Meeting, on the 16th of 6month 1858.

The following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting has been received and read at this time, and is directed to be recorded, namely

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held at Newport in Rhode Island, by adjournments from the 13th of 6 mo 1858 to the 16th of the same inclusive,

Third day of the week, and 15th of the month. The committee appointed this morning to consider and lay before this meeting the names of suitable Friends to compose a meeting for sufferings, produced the following report, which after a time of consideration was approved, and the Friends therein named are accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The committee appointed to propose the names of suitable Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, report that they have attended to that service, and are united in proposing the following named Friends, to wit. Seleg Mitchell Nathan Page, Francis Tabor, Ethan Foster, William Hill, Benjamin Gifford, Obadiah Hussey, John Paddock, Benjamin Tucker, Isaac Wilbur, James Austin, Ethan Foster, Thomas K. Wilbur, John B Oliver, Amos C Wilbur, John J Kenyon, George C. Kenyon, Philip Tripp, George M. Eddy, George F. Read, Harvey Chase, Stephen Swift, Miller Chase, Valentine Meader, Charles Perry and Levi Chase.

On behalf of the Committee
Wm. Hill

Extracted from the minutes and signed on behalf and

by direction of the meeting by
Peleg Mitchell, Clerk this 3 being called
and the names of the Friends therein mentioned 21 — members,
viz Peleg Mitchell, Nathan Page, Francis Taber, Othniel
Foster, ~~[illegible]~~, William Hill, Benjamin Gardner
~~[illegible]~~ Benjamin Tucker, Israel Buffington
James Austin, Ethan Foster, Thomas H. Tilton, Amos
C. Tilton, John T. Kenyon, George C Kenyon, Philip
Tripp, George Mc. Eddy, Geo F. Read, Harvey Chase
Stephen Swift, Valentine Meader & Charles Perry, were
present and answered thereto

George F. Read, is appointed to serve this
Meeting, as Clerk for one year.

It is concluded that our Stated meetings, be held at the
same time and places, as last year, namely at the 3d hour
in the afternoon of the day preceding that on which Rhode
Island Quarterly Meeting is held at Newport in the 8th month,
at Dale Street in the 11th month, and at North Providence,
in the 2d month, at the same hour in the afternoon of
the day preceding that on which Saindwich Quarterly
Meeting is held at New Bedford in the 4th month, and
at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the 7th day on which
the Select Yearly Meeting is held at Newport.

No further business being presented at this time, we
conclude, purposing to meet again at Newport,
at the usual time in the 8th month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

A Meeting of the Select Men of Newport in the Month & Year above written.

Present 12 Months named Present the Clerk Josh Williams Hall Josiah Bennett Thomas Foster Jun. Thomas Lee Jun. Thomas Lee Jun. Wm. Eddy Present A Resolve that Levi Chase and Walter Chase

The Committee appointed in the 11th month 1856 to examine and revise the Journal, as far as before found, John Wilbur having made some further progress therein, in person. The Manuscript of the same, commencing at page 33 and continuing as far as page 73 was read to their satisfaction.

No further business being presented at this time, we adjourn purposing to meet again at Vale River, at the usual time in the eleventh month next.

George F. Read Clerk.

At a meeting of sufferings held at Fall River 5th of 11th Month 1838

Present twelve members namely Othniel Faber William Wall Israel Buffington Elkanah Faber, Thomas R. Wilbur, Amos C. Wilbur, John T. Kenyon, George C. Kenyon, Philip Tripp, George H. Eddy, Hervey Chace, Levi Chace & Miller Chace

Some further revision of the journal of our late friend John Wilbur by the Committee, having been adjudged necessary, as well of what has been read as of that which has not, and such revision having been made of that heretofore read and of a portion of the ~~balance~~ remainder, it was concluded to commence at the beginning and proceed therewith. The reading was accordingly resumed, and some progress was made therein; after which the meeting adjourned to meet at 7 O'clock this evening.

Evening - met pursuant to adjournment.

The reading of the journal aforesaid was resumed and continued as far as page 87 of the manuscript - then adjourned to meet again at six O'clock to morrow evening.

5th day evening met near the time adjourned to - present fifteen members

The reading of the journal was again resumed and continued as far as the 514 page of the manuscript account of his first visit to Great Britain - then adjourned to nine O'clock to morrow morning.

14th day morning the 3d May the hour adjourned to
Friends again met

The reading of the journal was resumed
with as far as page 150 of the European visit, after which
adjourned to meet again at two o'clock this afternoon.

afternoon met according to adjournment

The reading of the journal of one late
years John Wilbur was again resumed and the
European visit concluded, and some letters written
by Friends from abroad were read then adjourned
to 6 o'clock this evening

6th day evening met the hour adjourned to
again assembled.

Some further portion of the journal of
the journal was read consisting of letters written
by Friends abroad.

It appearing desirable to have the journal
published at the early day, it is concluded to
meet again at Newport on 4th day the 1st
of 12th month next at three o'clock in the
afternoon.

Edmund Foster clerk for this time

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford according to adjournment 4th of 12th Mo. 1858

Present the usual members namely Isley Mitchell, Thomas Taber, Wm Hill, John Paddock, Israel Buffington, James Austin, Ethan Foster, Thomas R. Rotch, George M. Eddy, Henry Wood and Stephen Swift

The further reading of letters addressed to John Tilton, which have been examined by the committee, and by them recommended to be published was resumed, and a considerable number read and passed — then adjourned to 6½ O'clock this evening

Evening — near the hour adjourned to Friends again assembled. Some further portion of the correspondence was read, and the meeting adjourned to meet again at 4½ O'clock to morrow afternoon

5th day afternoon met pursuant to adjournment present usual members — The reading was resumed and some more of the correspondence read. — then adjourned to 7½ O'clock this evening.

Evening — near the time adjourned to Friends again met; and the time of the sitting was occupied in the further reading of the correspondence; after which adjourned to meet at the house of our friend Benjamin Tucker in Dartmouth at 9 O'clock to morrow morning

6th day morning near the hour adjourned to Friends again assembled — present usual members. The reading of the correspondence was still further pursued, and occupied the time of the sitting — then adjourned to half past one O. clock this afternoon.

afternoon - met according to adjournment. Some further portion of the correspondence and some of the journal was read; and then adjourned to 6 o'clock this evening.)

Evening - near the time adjourned to, again assembled. The reading of the correspondence was resumed, and all that had been prepared by the committee completed. It was then concluded to adjourn to meet again at Fall River on 5th day the 13th of 1st month next at three o'clock at the house of our friend William Hill.

Ethan Foster Clerk for this time

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River pursuant to adjournment 13th of 1st Mo. 1853 - present eleven members

The journal of the last visit of John Wilbur to Lynn Britain was read at this time; after which adjourned to seven o'clock this evening. -

Evening - met pursuant to adjournment some further portion of the manuscript, and also a portion of the extract from the "Narrative and Exposition" presented by the committee for publication was read at this sitting - then adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Sixth day morning the 14th near the hour adjourned to friends again met - present 12, members

The remainder of the Narrative and Exposition designed for publication in the Friends' Re-

read, then adjourned to two O'clock this afternoon.

afternoon — met pursuant to adjournment. Some further portion of the correspondence was read at this time; after which adjourned to half past six O'clock this evening.

Evening — Friends again met according to adjournment — The reading of the correspondence was resumed and all that was presented by the committee completed — Then adjourned to meet again at North Providence at the usual time in the 2nd month next.

Edmund Foster Clerk for this time

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Stan
ton in Va. 2nd of 2nd Month 1859

The clerk of this meeting having absented Ethan
Foster is appointed Clerk for this time

The remaining matter designed for publication
in the Journal was entered upon and concluded at this
time; and believing that the state of things in the
Society at large is such as to call for its publication
with no better delay as may be, and that the cause
of Truth will be promoted thereby, the surviving chil-
dren of John Wilbur are left at liberty to publish
the same; and the committee under appointment are
desired to continue their care and assistance herein as occasion
may require

No further business appearing to
claim our attention at this time we concluded
purposing to meet again at Stanton at the
usual time in the 4th month next.

Ethan Foster Clerk for this time

At a meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford 6th of 4th mo 1839
The clerk of this meeting being absent James Austin is appointed clerk for this time,

Present nine members which being insufficient to form a Quoram for the transaction of business it is concluded to adjourn to the tenth hour to morrow morning

5th day morning the 7th. Friends again met pursuant to adjournment present 11 members Grace Buffington, William Hill, Benjamin Gardner, Francis Taber, & Thomas R Wilbur, are appointed to make the necessary provision for the holding of our next Yearly Meeting, and for the accomodation of Friends in attendance thereof, in which Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore, & the clerk is directed to furnish that meeting with a copy of this minute, & the Committee are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred by them

No further business appearing to interest us we adjourn, to meet again at New Port at the usual time in the 8th mo next

James Austin, Clerk for the time

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Newport 6mo 11. 1859

Present 17 members viz Silas Mitchell, Nathan Page, Frances Taber, Daniel Potter Jun. Hull, Benjamin Gardner Israel Buffington, James Austin, Ethan Foster, Thomas K Hilbur, George C. Hempton, George M. Eddy, George F. Read Stephen Swift, Valentine Meader and Levi Chase

The Committee appointed to examine and revise the Journal of our deceased Friend, John Hilbur, and continued to superintend the publication thereof, inform that said Journal has been published, and is now ready for sale, and they are authorized to purchase such a number of copies, not exceeding 50, as they may think best, to be distributed at their discretion, for the benefit and information of those, who are not members of our Society, and to draw upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, for the expense thereof.

The business of this Meeting being now concluded, the Clerk is directed to lay our records for the past year before the Yearly Meeting

Then adjourned to meet again at the rise of the Yearly Meeting

George F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at the rise of the Yearly Meeting on the 15th of the 6th month 1859

Present 21 members

We have received the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting viz.

Third day of the week, and the 14th of the month
The committee appointed to propose the names of suitable Friends to compose a Meeting for have produced the following report

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting

The committee appointed to propose the names of suitable Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings report that they have attended to that service, and have concluded to propose the following named Friends viz. Peleg Mitchell, Nathan Page, Francis Taber, Othniel Foster, Wm Hall, Benjamin Gardner, John Paddock, Benjamin Tucker, Israel Buffington, James Austin, Ethan Foster, Thomas K. Hilton, William B. Oliver, Amos C. Hilton, John T. Kenyon, George C Kenyon, Philip Tripp, George M. Eddy, George F. Read Harvey Chase, Stephen Swift, Miller Chase, Valentine Meader, Charles Perry Levi Chase and Perse Tucker

on behalf of the Committee
Newport 6 mo 14. 1859 James Austin

which being considered is approved, and the Friends therein named are accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing.
Extracted from the Minutes and signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting. Peleg Mitchell
Clerk to the Meeting, this year.

The time for which the Clerk of this Meeting was appointed having expired, George F. Read, is appointed to that service for one year, or until another appointment

It is concluded that our stated meetings be held at the same time, and places, as last year, namely, at the 3d hour in the afternoon of the day preceeding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held at Newport in the 8th month; at Fall River in the 11th month; and at North Providence in the 2d month; at the same hour in the afternoon of the day preceeding that on which Sandwich Quarterly Meeting is held at New Bedford in the 4th Month; and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the 7th day on which the Select Yearly Meeting is held at Newport

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon

Afternoon, met pursuant to adjournment. Present 20 members.

We have received the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting viz.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island by adjournment from the 12th of the 6th month, to the 15th of the same inclusive, 1859

Third day of the week and 14th of the month.
The committee appointed yesterday morning to take into consideration the subject of the two communications both purporting to come from New York Yearly Meeting of Friends, have made the following report
To the Yearly Meeting

The committee appointed to take into

consideration the two communications purporting to come from New York Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Poplar Ridge, have attended to that appointment, and earnestly sought for best help to guide them in their deliberations. The subject referred to them was felt to be one of very great importance not only to the Yearly Meeting immediately interested, but also to the Society of Friends, wherever located.
It appears that a lamentable separation has taken place in that Yearly Meeting, though in regard to the ground upon which that separation was effected, or the manner in which it was brought about, our information is very imperfect. On this account many members of the Committee could not see their way clear to recommend the reading of either the communications referred to them, or the recognition at present of either of the bodies from which the communications emanated. Under a deep sense of the responsibility resting upon them, and fervently desiring that Truth may in the end triumph over all her enemies, the Committee are united under the existing circumstances in recommending that the whole subject be referred to our Meeting for Sufferings, with directions to give it that full and careful investigation which its importance seems to demand, and that they be requested to report to the Yearly Meeting next year

on behalf of the Committee

Valentine Meader

Newport 6 mo. 4. 1859 Mary Paye

which having been deliberately considered, was approved, the women meeting concurring herein. And the Meeting for Sufferings are requested agreeable with the recommendation of the Committee to report their judgement in the case to this Meeting next year
Extracted from the minutes, and signed on behalf

of the Meeting by

Peleg Mitchell
Clerk to the Meeting, this year

The two documents referred to in the extract from the Yearly Meeting have been read by us at this time; and after a time of deliberation, the further consideration of the subject is referred to our next meeting

No further business being presented at this time, we adjourn to meet again at Newport, at the usual time in the 8th month next

George F. Rees

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport
3d of 8th Month 1859 — present 16 Members.
The clerk of this meeting being absent Elihu Tallcott is appointed to act.

The subject of the two documents purporting to have been issued by N.Y. Yearly Meeting referred by minute of our last meeting were again considered, and a printed communication signed by John King and Sarah B. Cameron, as clerks of one of those bodies was read; also a printed document in reply thereto, put forth by a body claiming to be a meeting for Sufferings of Friends, yearly meeting signed by Jamie C. Hicks clerk. After a time of deliberation thereon, it was concluded to refer the further consideration of the subject to our next meeting.

No further business being presented at this time we conclude, purposing to meet again at Hall town at the usual time in the 10th Month next.

Elihu Tallcott clerk this time

At a Meting for sufferings. Held at Fall River the 2d of 11th month 1859

Present 18 Minibers.

The Clerk of this Meting being absent Valentine Meader was appointed Clerk for this time

A Communication Signed by Thomas Crozer and Louisa M Dowdna. on behalf of a committe appointed by Salem Quarterly Meting of Friends. Held at Linn in the State of Iowa. the 20th of 8th month. 1859. 'proposing the appointment of a joint committe to examine into the subject of the late separation in New York Yearly Meting — having been laid before us at this time. was read: and after a time of deliberation thereon. — though we are sincerely desirous for the restoration of harmony amongst Friends. and that we may be enabled to come to a right judgment in the case, yet does not appear to open for the appointment of such a Committe. 'And the Clerk is directed to forward to the Committe of that Quarterly Meting a Copy of this minute

The Meting having been occupied for a considerable time in the Consideration of the present State of New York Yearly Meting, and no way of coming for action at this time, it is concluded to refer the further consideration thereof to our next Meting,

No further Business presenting, the Meting adjourned. to meet again at North Providence at the usual time in the 2d month next.

Valentine Meader Clerk
for this time

North Providence.

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 1st. of 2nd month 1860

Present 13 members

The clerk of this meeting being absent Ethan Foster is appointed clerk for this time

The subject of the printed condition of New York yearly meeting as opened by minute of our last meeting came again under consideration; and after a time of solid deliberation thereon, it was the conclusion of this meeting that it will not be best, under existing circumstances, to recommend to the yearly meeting the recognition of either of the divisions claiming to be New York Yearly, as such; and Charles Peirce, William Hill, Lydia M. Eddy, Ethan Foster Israel Buffington and Henry Chace are appointed a committee to draw up a report to this effect and present to our next meeting.

Some extracts of our late beloved friend Thomas Scattergood were at this time read before the meeting for examination and revision, at the request of our friend Wm Hodgson who has in some time past been engaged in preparing them for publication. The reading of these writings was commenced and continued as far as the 57th page of the manuscript, after which, adjourned to meet again at Swansea at the usual time in the 4th month next.

Ethan Foster Clerk for this time

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at New Bedford, 4mo 4. 1860

Present 19 members.

The Committee appointed by the Meeting for Sufferings, in the 2d month last to prepare a report in relation to the unhappy division which has occurred in New York Yearly Meeting presented one, which being read, was recommitted to the same Friends; and they are requested to abridge said report, and to present it to a future sitting of this Meeting.

The appoint Israel Buffinton, Benjamin Gardner, Francis Jabez and George M Eddy, to make provision for the holding of our next Yearly Meeting, and for the accomodation of Friends in attendance thereof, in which Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid, as heretofore; and the Clerk is requested to furnish Rhode Island Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute. The Committee are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred

Adjourned to ½ past 8 tomorrow morning.

5th day morning the 5th of the month, met pursuant to adjournment Present 18 members.

A preface to the writings of our late beloved Friend, Thomas B. Ladd, prepared by Wm. Hodgson jr was presented at this time, and read to our comfort and edification. The reading of the writings was also continued as far as page 72.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon

Afternoon, met pursuant to adjournment, Present 37 members.

The Committee appointed in the 9th month last, in relation to the division in New York Yearly Meeting, and to whom was recommitted the Report which was made to this meeting yesterday presented the ~~Report~~ same in an abridged form, which this meeting is not united in accepting, and it was concluded to adopt the following viz

To New England Yearly Meeting of Friends to be held in Rhode Island, on the 6th month next

Dear Friends

The subject of the division in New York Yearly Meeting, referred to this meeting by minute of last Year - has claimed our serious and deliberate consideration, and we have endeavored to avail ourselves of sufficient information by which through Divine assistance to come to a right conclusion in this important matter

But this Meeting is not united in proposing to the Yearly Meeting to acknowledge as New York Yearly Meeting either of the divisions claiming to be such.

~~Which is opposed to our Meeting~~, and the Clerk is directed to furnish the Yearly Meeting with a copy of this ~~same~~ report.

The reading of the writings of Thomas B. Gould was continued as far as the end of page 88

Adjourned to meet again at North Providence, at the 10th hour of the 3rd day previous to the first first day in the 5th month next

Geo. E. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at North Providence
1st of Fifth Month 1860. Present 8 Members,
namely Othniel Foster, Israel Buffinton, Elihu
Foster, Thomas K. Wilbur, John J. Kenyon, George
M. Eddy, Harvey Chace and Charles Peny,
which being less than the required number for
the transaction of business it was concluded to
adjourn to meet again at Newport at the
Stated time in the Sixth month next.

On behalf of the members present,

Charles Peny

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6mo 7. 1860 Present 17 Members

The reading of the minutes of Thomas B. Gould was continued to join on the rise of page 185

As further business being presented at this time, the Clerk is directed to lay the record for the past year before the Yearly Meeting

Then adjourned to meet again at the rise of the Yearly Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at the rise of the Yearly Meeting 6mo 13. 1860

Present 25 Members

We have received the following extract from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting viz

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held at Newport on Rhode Island, by adjournments from the 10th of 6mo. 1860, to the 15th of the same inclusive

3d day of the week and 12th of the month
The committee appointed yesterday to consider ~~of~~ and propose the name of suitable Friends to compose a Meeting for Sufferings, have now prepared the following, and after a time of consideration & the names of Jeremiah Hubbard being united by the Meeting) they were approved and are accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, viz Peleg Mitchell, Nathaniel Day

Francis, Jabez, Obadiah Foster, Jr. Hill, Benjamin Gardner, John Paddock, Israel Buffington, James Austin, Ethan Foster, Thomas R. Hilton, Asa C. Hilton, John T. Kenyon, George C. Kenyon, Philip Tripp, George M. Eddy, George H. Reed, Harvey Thurs, Stephen Swift, Walter Thurs, Valentine Mercer, Charles Henry, Levi Thurs, Jesse Thurber, Joseph Brayton, John Foster of Warwick and Resemiah Foster

which being considered is approved and the Friends therein named are accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, for the ensuing year

The time for which the Clerk of this Meeting was appointed having expired, George H. Reed, was appointed to that service for one year or until another appointment

It is concluded that our stated Meetings be held at the same time & places, as last year, namely at the 3d hour in the afternoon of the day preceding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held, at Newport in the 8th month; at Hall Island, in the 11th month, and at North Providence in the 2d month; at the same hour of the day preceding that on which Sandwich Quarterly Meeting is held, at New Bedford in the 4th month, and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the 4th day on which the Select Yearly Meeting is

Held at Newport

Adjourned to the 5th hour this afternoon

The reading of the writings of Thomas B. Gould was continued as far as the end of page 222

Adjourned to the 8th hour, tomorrow morning

5th day morning the 14th of the month, met pursuant to adjournment. Present 18 members

The reading of the writings of Thomas B. Gould was continued as far as page 279.

No further business being presented at this time, we adjourn to meet again at Newport at the usual time in the 8th month next

George F. Read. Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Newport 8 mo. 1. 1860
Present 18 members

The reading of the writings of Thomas B. Gould was continued as far as page 366

Adjourned to meet again at 1/2 past seven to morrow morning

Geo F. Read. Clerk

5th day morning, met pursuant to adjournment
Present 18 Members.

The reading of the writings was continued as far
as page 423.

adjourned to meet again at the third hour this
afternoon

Geo F. Read Clerk

Afternoon again met. In consequence of the late
sitting of the Quarterly Meeting, the time adjourned
to is ~~last~~ already past.

The Clerk being absent Charles Perry is appointed
~~to act~~ as Clerk for this time.

It is concluded to adjourn to meet 5th hour this
afternoon

Charles Perry, Clerk for the time

Afternoon, again met pursuant to adjournment
Present 12 members.

The reading of the writings above reperred to
was continued as far as page 482.

Adjourned to meet again at 8 o'clock this
evening

Geo. F. Read, Clerk

Evening, met according to adjournment. Present 11 members.

The reading of the writings of Thomas B. Gould was continued as far as Page 528

Adjourned to meet again at 7 o'clock tomorrow morning

Geo F. Read. Clerk

6th day morning the 30 of the month, met according to adjournment, Present 11 members.

The reading of the writings and memoirs of our ~~late~~ dear departed Friend Thomas B. Gould; prepared by Mr. Hodgson jr of Philadelphia; which has occupied several sittings of this Meeting at various times, has now been concluded. During the time in which we have thus been engaged, we have been much comforted and edified by this ~~result~~ record of the remarkable faithfulness and devotion of our dear Friend to the Cause of Truth and Righteousness in the earth; and believing that usefulness will result from a more general circulation and perusal of these writings, the Editor is left at liberty to publish the same, and the Clerk is requested to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

There being no further business at this time, we conclude, purposing to meet again at Fall River, at the usual time, ~~to-morrow week~~ at Fall River

Geo. F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 31st of 10th Month 1860.

Present Seventeen members.

The Clerk of this Meeting being absent Charles Peny is appointed to act as Clerk for this time.

We are informed that the "Writings and memoirs" of our late Friend Thomas B. Gould has been issued from the press since our last Meeting and is now ready for circulation.

There appearing no business to claim the attention of the Meeting at the present time, we conclude proposing to meet again at the usual time in the Second month next at North Providence.

Charles Peny Clerk for this time.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at 6th Providence 6th of 12th Month 1860.

Present, fifteen members.

The clerk of this Meeting not being present Charles Perry is appointed to act in that capacity at this time.

The subject of the present destitute and suffering situation of the people of Kansas, in consequence of the almost entire failure of their crops from drought the past year, claiming our consideration & sympathy; we appoint George M. Eddy, Charles Perry, Jeremiah Varle, Israel Buffington, William Hill, Joseph Brinton and Harvey Chace, to receive such collections as may in freedom be made by Friends and others for their relief; and to appropriate the same to that object in such manner as shall seem to them best. And in view of the pressing urgency of the case they are desired to act as promptly as circumstances will admit, and report to our next meeting.

No other business proceeding at this time we conclude, purposing to meet again at New Bedford at the usual time in the 4th month next.

Charles Perry Clerk for this time.

to a meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford 3d mo. of 4. mo. 1861.

The clerk of this meeting not being present Peleg Mitchell is appointed to that service for this time

Present nine members, which not being a number sufficient, according to our discipline, to act in the capacity of a meeting for sufferings it is concluded to adjourn to the close of Sandwich Quarterly Meeting tomorrow afternoon

Peleg Mitchell Clerk for this time.

Fifth day 4. mo. 4. 1861.

Met pursuant to adjournment

Present ten members

The committee appointed at our last meeting for the relief of the sufferers in Kansas presented the following Journal report

To the Meeting for Sufferings next to be held at New Bedford

Dear Friends

The Committee appointed in the 2d Month last to receive and apply such contributions as Friends and others might in freedom bestow for the relief of the suffering people of Kansas - Report, that we have attended to that service, and from our collections for that purpose there was forwarded prior to the 20th of 2d Month three hundred and Twenty seven Dolls + 20 cts. to John E. Williams of New York, Treasurer of the Kansas relief committee In whose faithfulness and discretion in the distribution we have

full confidence Twenty nine Dols. & 20 cts. From a subsequent collection was entrusted to an individual in Bourbon County, Kansas, to be used there, where assistance was very much needed There are now other funds in the hands of the committee which have not yet been forwarded

George M. Eddy
on behalf of the Committee

Fourth Month 3d 1861

Which is acceptable to us and the same friends are continued for further service, and are requested to make a full report to our next meeting

We appoint Obadiah Buffington, Geo. M. Eddy, Jesse Tucker James Austin & William Hill to make suitable provision for the holding of our next Yearly meeting. ... they are requested to take care that no Friend shall be embarrassed in the attendance thereof, on account of the expense, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense thereof, and Rhode Island Monthly meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore and the Clerk is requested to furnish said meeting with a copy of this minute

Adjourned to meet again at Newport at the usual time in the 6th Month next

Geo. H. Read Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Newport 6 mo 15, 1861
Present 17 members

The Committee appointed at a previous meeting for the relief of the Sufferers in Kansas not being ready to make a full report at the present time are continued, and requested to make one, at an adjournment of this Meeting.

Adjourned to meet again at the 8th hour on 2d day morning of next week

Geo F. Read, Clerk

2d day Morning the 17th of the month, met pursuant to adjournment. Present 19 members,

The Committee appointed on the second month last, and continued in the 4th month to make a full report, presented the following — viz.

To the Meeting for Sufferings

The Committee appointed in the second month last and continued in the 4th month to receive and apply such Contributions for the relief of the suffering people of Kansas, as Friends and others in freedom might bestow for that object again report that the sum on hand, and collected since our last, amounts to fifty nine Dollars and 15 cts, which has been forwarded to John E. Williams of New York, Treasurer of the Kansas Relief Fund

We have satisfactory accounts of the faithful application of the amount which was before referred to, as being forwarded to an individual of Bourbon Co. Kansas, and have no doubt that all we have collected, has been properly applied by those to whom it was entrusted. The total amount collected and forwarded by us is $417.$\frac{55}{100}$

be able to
We are glad to report that the relief afforded to the sufferers in Kansas by the liberal contributions from the free States, was most timely to meet their urgent necessities for food and clothing; and that they are now favored with the cheerful prospect of plentiful crops.

Newport 6 mo 17. 1861. Charles Perry on behalf
of the Committee

which is acceptable to us, and the Committee are released from further service

There being no further business presented to the meeting at this time, the Clerk is directed to lay our records before the Yearly Meeting

Adjourned to meet again at the rise of the Yearly Meeting

George F. Read. Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, at the rise of the Yearly Meeting 6mo. 19. 1861. Present 23 members

The have received the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting viz.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held at Newport, on Rhode Island by adjournments from the 16th of the 6th month 1861 to the 19th of the same inclusive.

4th day of the week and 19th of the month.

The Committee appointed to consider of & propose the names of suitable Friends to compose a Meeting for Sufferings have produced the following report.

The Committee appointed to propose the names of suitable Friends to compose a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, report the following — Nathan Page, Othniel Foster, Thomas K. Wilbur, Peleg Mitchell, William Hull, Charles Perry, Jesse Tucker, James Austin, Valentine Meader, Israel Bliss Austin, George F. Read, Ethan Foster, Samuel Sheffield, Benjamin Chandler, Stephen Swift, Amos C. Wilbur, Harvey Chase, George C. Kenyon, Joseph Brinton, John T. Kenyon, George Mc. Eddy, John Foster of Warwick, Isaac P. Wilbur, Jeremiah Foster and Levi Chase

and the Friends therein named are accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the following year

We appoint George F. Read to serve this Meeting as Clerk for one year, or until another appointment.

Stated

It is concluded that our Meetings be held at the same times & places as last year viz at the 3d hour in the afternoon of the day preceding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held at Newport in the 8th month; in Fall River in the 11th month, and at North Providence in the 2d month; at the same hour of the day preceding that on which Sandwich Quarterly Meeting is held at New Bedford in the 4th month, and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the 7th day on which the Select Yearly Meeting is held at Newport.

There being no further business we conclude purposing to meet again at Newport, at the usual time in the 8th month next

Geo F. Read. Clerk

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 31st of 7th Month 1861.

Present thirteen members

The clerk being absent Thomas R. Wilbur is appointed clerk for this time

There being no business before the meeting we conclude purposing to meet at the usual time on the day preceding Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in 11th mo. next at Fall River

Thomas R. Wilbur Clerk
for the time

At a meeting for sufferings held at Fall River 6th of 11th mo. 1861.

Present sixteen members

The Clerk being absent Thomas K. Hilton is appointed to serve the meeting this time.

It then appears to be no business to come before the meeting we conclude our business to meet at the usual time on the 5th day evening Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in 2nd mo. next at North Providence

Thos. K. Hilton clerk for this time

At a meeting for sufferings held at North Providence 5th of 2nd mo. 1862.

Present sixteen members.

The clerk being absent, Thomas K. Hilton is appointed to serve the meeting as clerk for this time.

The subject of having our meeting house taken possession of by the Military at this time, and the use we are to make of it, and what our testimony under existing circumstances should be, was introduced, and the duty we may be subjected to, of giving the fullest consideration to the course we should pursue at this time, was felt by us, and we concluded to meet again at this time for that purpose

At a meeting for sufferings held at Newport & the use of the Y. Mtg 6th mo. 15. 1864

present 15. members

We have rec'd the following extract from the minute of the Y. Mtg.

The time for which the clerk of this Mtg was appointed having expired Edwin Potter is appointed to serve as clerk for the year ensuing.

It is concluded that our stated meeting be held at the same times & places as heretofore except that in 8th mo. which is to be held at N. P. instead of Newport

There being no further business we conclude to meet again at North Prov. at the usual time in the 8th mo. next

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6mo 14. 1862
Present 18 members.

No business being presented at this time, the Clerk is directed to lay our records before the Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to meet again at the rise of the Yearly Meeting

George F. Read Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport at the rise of the Yearly Meeting 6mo 18. 1862. Present 22 members

We have received the following extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting viz.

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Newport on Rhode Island by adjournments from the 15th of the 6th month 1862, to the 18th of the same inclusive, 4th day of the week & 18th of the month.

"The Committee appointed this morning to report to the meeting the names of suitable persons to compose a Meeting for Sufferings have produced the following report.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee appointed to consider & and propose the names of suitable persons to compose a Meeting for Sufferings, have attended to this appointment, and are united in proposing the

following Friends viz

Peleg Mitchell, Othniel Foster, Nathan Page, Duncan K. Tabor, William Hill, James Austin, George F. Read, Stephen Swift, Francis Tabor, Valentine Meader, Jesse Tucker, George E. Kenyon, Levi Chase, Ethan Foster, Charles Perry, Jeremiah Potter, Isaac Tinkle, Israel Buffington, John Foster of Dunwich, Joseph Brinton, John T. Kenyon, John Sidnick, George M. Eddy, Isaac S. Tabor and John W. Foster

on behalf of the Committee

Newport 6 mo 18. 1862 Valentine Meader

and the persons therein named are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing.

Extracted from the minutes

Peleg Mitchell Clerk
this year

The time for which the Clerk of this Meeting was appointed having expired, George F. Read is appointed to that service for one year.

It is concluded that our stated Meetings be held at the same time & places, as heretofore, viz, at the 3o hour in the afternoon of the day preceding that on which Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is held at Newport in the 5th month; in Fall River in the 11 month, and at Smith Providence in the 2o month; at the same hour of the day preceding that on which Sandwich Quarterly Meeting is held at New Bedford in the 4th month, and at 3o o'clock in the afternoon of the 7th day on which the Select Yearly Meeting is Held at Newport.

There being no further business, we conclude purposing to meet again at Newport, at the usual time in the 8th month next.

George F. Read, Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6th of 8th Month 1862. — Present 12 Members.

The Clerk not being present, Charles Peery is appointed to act as Clerk for this time.

A memorial from New Bedford Monthly Meeting of Friends, united with by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Francis Taber, having been produced and read in this Meeting to our satisfaction and comfort, it is approved; and the Clerk is directed to lay the same before our next Yearly Meeting.

No further business requiring notice on our Minutes at this time, being presented, we conclude, purposing to meet again at Fall River at the usual time in the Eleventh month next.

Charles Peery Clerk for this time

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Fall River 11th Mo. 5th, 1862, Present 17 Members.

The clerk being absent, Charles Perry is appointed to serve as clerk for this time.

The books of Record for this Meeting being now nearly filled, the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to procure another suitable book for future use.

No further business being proposed at this time, we conclude, purposing to meet again at North Providence at the usual time in the second Month next.

Charles Perry Clerk for this time.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at North Providence 2nd Month 11th 1863. Present 13 Members.

The Clerk of this Meeting being absent Francis Taber is appointed to serve as Clerk for this time.

The subject of assisting the destitute and suffering Coulard People, who have been liberated from Slavery to us feelingly introduced to this Meeting at this time and claimed our serious consideration. And Friends were encouraged to do what they could to alleviate their sufferings, in any way that would conduce to the furtherance of this much desireable object.

No further business appearing to claim our attention at this time. We conclude by proposing to Meet at New Bedford at the usual time in the fourth Month next

Samuel Jones
Clerk for this time

[illegible] for [illegible] at New [illegible]
[illegible] Meeting [illegible]

[illegible] Clerk of this [illegible] time about
Edmund Potter is appointed to [illegible] Clerk for
this time.

[illegible] appointed [illegible] Isaac Chase, Joshua [illegible]
Tucker and William Hill to make suitable
provision for the holding of [illegible]
Meeting and they are allowed to draw on the
Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expence
[illegible] and that [illegible] be encouraged in the
attendance of the same on account of the [illegible]

[illegible] Meeting [illegible]
[illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] the next
Quarterly Meeting [illegible] this
minute

The present embarrassed situation [illegible]
has arisen from the existing civil War now raging
between the Northern and Southern States of the Union
has claimed the serious consideration [illegible]
and in view of the conscription law [illegible]
Legislature of Congress by which Friends are [illegible]

[illegible] members who are liable
[illegible] principal, and not to give in their names
[illegible] by paying the fine which attaches
[illegible]

Ethan Foster
Clerk for this time

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6 mo. 13. 1863.
Present 20 members.

Having given attention to some subjects which have claimed
our attention, and no further business being presented at this
time, the Clerk is requested to lay an Record before the
Yearly Meeting

It is agreed to meet again at the time of the Yearly Meeting.

George H. Mott Clerk